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LITERATURE.

SIR HOPE GRANT ON THE CHINA WAR.

Incidents in the China War of 1860, compiled from the Journals of General Sir Hope Grant. By Captain H. Knollys, R.A. (London: Blackwood & Sons, 1875.)

THE many readers of Sir Hope Grant's *Incidents in the Sepoy War* will be ready to receive with cordial welcome the little volume now presented to the public on his Chinese campaign, and will be prepared for its general characteristics. There is the same simplicity and straightforwardness of narrative, characteristic of the lamented General's frank and manly personal attributes; the same frequent ignoring of self (so remarkable in an autobiographer), and slight treatment of the share borne by the narrator in very great events; the same careful editing on the part of Captain Knollys, who has accomplished his share of the task in a manner that deserves high praise. It gives an additional touch of interest to this volume, albeit one of a melancholy kind, that the printed sheets for it were laid before the writer after he had been seized with the mortal malady that deprived the country of his services; so that it may be said to appear as a sort of bequest, recording the highest one that he ever accomplished of the many varied duties entrusted to him. In other respects it can hardly reach the same historic value as his former work. There is a never-dying interest attached to the great tragedy enacted in the varied scenes round Delhi, Cawnpore, and Lucknow, and to the events which for the hour shook the whole fabric of greatness England has built up in the East; which cannot be found in the records of a campaign conducted with steady straightforward success against an empire which proved unable even to make a moderately good defence of its own heart against the attacks that its councillors up to the last treated so lightly as those of the Emperor of China plainly did the advance of the allied Powers on Peking, even after the fall of the Taku forts and of Tientsin left the road open to the capital.

There is a plain military moral of much importance that lies almost on the surface of this narrative. It may be necessary for general policy's sake that two great Powers should combine their forces to punish a common enemy, whose barbarous or semi-civilised strength would be unable to cope with either of them singly: but for any less reason than an important state necessity, such a combination is to be absolutely con-

demned. What was the consequence in this particular case? So badly were matters managed between the allies, that the jealous arrangement which was to limit their contingents to precisely equal strengths of 10,000 men each, was tacitly dropped almost from the first. The British force far exceeded this estimate. The French, with no great base like India to draw from, came far behind it. The net result was that the latter furnished a bare third of the nominal strength, and a much less proportion (as Captain Knollys well shows) of the fighting power that did the chief part of the actual work, that at the Taku forts. And yet throughout the operations, from first to last, we were compelled to keep up the official fiction that the French were there in equal strength to ourselves; to give them the place of honour at the most critical moments, a condition which allowed that stolen march of theirs on and plunder of the Summer Palace, which Captain Knollys has done rightly to expose with thoroughness in his *précis* of the evidence; and to consult at every turn of the operations their staff as well as our own, thus leaving room for that division of counsels which is almost as certain to follow, under such conditions, as night to succeed day. When to the difficulties thus created for Sir Hope Grant in the first terms of the problem put into his hands to solve; it is added that the officer associated with him in rank and power by the French was the very Count Palikao who, when clothed with brief authority in his tenure of the Paris War Office in the fatal August of 1870, made himself memorable for ever as the most blundering mismanager who ever attempted to dictate strategy to distant generals from a minister's closet: we become sensible that the British general must have had within him far higher qualities than those ever gave him credit for who had noted him merely as the methodical hard-riding colonel of a crack cavalry regiment, whose puritanism never interfered with the smart action of his squadrons, or even as the fire-eating brigadier of horse in the Delhi campaign. To have carried on without a check from first to last the operations that led to the fall of Peking, would have been no slight task had he been unfettered. To have accomplished this when burdened by the presence of Palikao as coadjutor; his opening delays, impracticable proposals for separate operations, and faltering or mistaken counsels at the crisis of the campaign: this, indeed, was no ordinary achievement. Not that we are at all disposed to admit with Captain Knollys that the Chinese expedition is to be held as pre-eminent above other very similar ones in our modern history. Indeed, the chief exception we should make to his reflections on it is to the statement that "it is scarcely too much to say that the Chinese war of 1860 may be considered the most successful and the best carried out of England's 'little wars.'" To critics less interested, the prompt and thorough punishment of the drunken tyrant King Theodore, and the humiliation of the bloody despot of Coomassie, will seem every whit as good proofs of British forethought in design, and endurance in execution. Where three successes of the same character were so com-

plete, it is a mistake to exalt one too loudly above the others. For lauded thus as excelling all other like adventurous campaigns, the advance of 10,000 picked British troops on the Chinese capital inevitably attracts comparison with the overthrow of the other and, for the time, more formidable barbarian power of China, flushed with the prestige of repeated victory and the fanaticism of a new creed, by the unaided genius of a single British leader. As a military achievement, Gordon's campaign against the Taepings as much transcends any of the wars we have spoken of as the discipline and dash of Probyn's Regiment of Horse that covered the advance of Sir Hope's columns, outdid those of the handful of coolies, officered by runaway adventurers, with which Gordon undertook the extirpation of a false faith and the restoration of a shattered empire. Nor should it be forgotten, when the Peking expedition is compared with those that have followed it, that Sir Hope had for one of his divisional generals the most brilliant officer the Indian Mutiny had raised to distinction—the future conqueror of Abyssinia. He himself is very careful to do justice to the assistance he received in the chief action at the Taku forts from Napier's abilities as an engineer. But other eye-witnesses of the Chinese campaign have said that the innate gift for tactics which had already shown itself in India from the time that that engineer first appeared at Lord Gough's side in the desperate struggle with the Sikhs in 1848, was as conspicuous in the Peking expedition as his more technical mastery of the details of his particular branch of the service. It is too early, however, for controversy on such matters. Enough to say that Captain Knollys is right to praise in the highest terms the performance of the great task entrusted to Sir Hope; nor is it necessary to this end to compare it with those other "little wars" of the results of which Englishmen have a right to feel proud, not merely for their own sakes, but because they have taught Europe that the old spirit of enterprise, energy, and courage has not wholly left these islands of ours.

Another great military lesson was to be gathered from this campaign which applied exclusively to ourselves, and happily it has not been lost on our government. This was the necessity of recognising the simple fact that India is no longer a colony to be defended from this country; but rather a separate empire under the same supreme head, which should not only provide for its own security, with the help, of course, of British counsels and British leaders, but form the base for all our foreign policy in the East. The Chinese war of 1860 should have been directed, all future wars in the Indian Ocean should be directed, not from London, but Calcutta; not by a Secretary of State at the other side of the world, but by the Viceroy of our Eastern empire. All sound military principle points to this. Nor less do the facts recorded in the work before us, where we find the Secretary for War—happily in this case the ablest Great Britain has had within the present generation—after a commander of the expedition had been ap-

pointed from the Indian staff, and troops to form it selected from the Indian army, suddenly intervening to assume the management by letters from Pall Mall, and only escaping the usual evils of such indirect and distant administration by the large discretion he had the good sense to leave to the general in command. Such confidential letters of Sydney Herbert's as are here published cannot fail to be interesting. To an observant mind no part of them is more so than the passages in which that lamented statesman deploras the cross purposes necessarily entailed by the system then in vogue of carrying on war with Indian means, and making believe that they were not Indian at all. "I regret very much," we find him, for instance, writing, "the loss of the Indian Commissariat. I fear that our people will make blunders as to native caste prejudices, and so on, which would be serious. It is another instance of the great inconvenience of having two separate civil jealous services in lieu of one with a common interest and object." Lord Herbert (the War Minister was then a peer) would have been more correct had he said that it was another instance of the absurdity of sending a large force from India without its own Indian departments to make it complete. To keep up the fiction that it came not from India but Great Britain, a raw commissariat was sent out to manage for troops whose habits they knew nothing of, and the success of the whole campaign jeopardised. This unreal and effete view of our military position in the East seems to have been abandoned thereafter; and when a like work had to be accomplished in Abyssinia, the wisdom of Downing Street made no greater blunder than the committing the care of the preparations to one of the subordinate administrations of India instead of its Supreme Government; being apparently under the delusion that the Governor of Bombay is in the semi-independent position which his predecessors occupied in the days of Clive. Such a political survival shows how forms of authority live on after the substance has long passed away.

It is not our purpose to follow with Captain Knollys the course of the Chinese campaign. To those who know the history even slightly, a reviewer's summary would be of little value; and even those who know it well may profitably study the course of the whole affair as traced in Sir Hope Grant's own clear unpretending notes, which his editor has brought into completeness and connected form with a care that has increased their value. Not the least interesting part of this interesting volume are the glimpses into Chinese imperial life afforded by the careful selection given of the State papers captured in the Summer Palace. For the edification of those who imagine that all addresses to the Emperor—who certainly in the national theory is generally, as Captain Knollys observes, "treated as a kind of divinity"—are necessarily couched in abject and flattering words, we conclude our notice of this pleasant little volume by transcribing some part of a curious letter of remonstrance to the monarch on the rumour first spreading that he was about to flee from his capital, before the barbarian enemy,

to his hunting seat at Gehol, in the interior. This document is couched in the form of a "Memorial by Tsae-tang-Yung, Censor (or chief finance officer) of the Hoo-kwang provinces," who writes:—

"The confusion and alarm are indescribable. But there has been nothing so strange as the report now heard, that your Majesty intended making a tour to Gehol. This has caused the utmost consternation, but your Minister does not believe in it. . . . If, indeed, the report is true, the effect produced will be like a convulsion of nature, and the mischief must be irreparable. In what light does your Majesty regard your people? In what light the shrines of your ancestors, or the altars of the tutelary gods? Will you cast away the inheritance of your ancestors like a damaged shoe? What would history say of your Majesty for a thousand generations henceforward? It has never been known that a sovereign should choose a time of danger and distress to make a hunting tour, supposing that thereby he would prevent trouble. If the capital should be disturbed, what would there be to save Gehol alone from being disturbed? Your Majesty is besought to return without delay to your palace, in order that the people's minds may be reassured against the enemy."

CHA. C. CHESNEY.

The Works of George Chapman. With an Introduction by Algernon Charles Swinburne. (London: Chatto & Windus, 1875.)

George Chapman: a Critical Essay. By Algernon Charles Swinburne. (London: Chatto & Windus, 1875.)

CHAPMAN'S translations of the *Iliad*, the *Odyssey*, the *Batrachomyomachia*, and the Hymns of Homer were republished by Mr. J. R. Smith in 1857. His Tragedies, Comedies, and Masques were collected and reprinted by Mr. John Pearson in 1873. The present edition by Messrs. Chatto and Windus combines the Dramatic Works and the translations, with the addition of a great many minor poems, republished now for the first time. The amount of attention which Chapman has thus received within a period of seventeen years will, to the most enthusiastic admirers of Elizabethan literature, appear a just but tardy recognition of his merits, while those who share Byron's opinion about the dramatists may be inclined to think that one republication of his works by a competent scholar would have sufficed for his fame. Chapman's Plays have been so recently made the subject of criticism in the ACADEMY (see September 1, 1873), that it will be enough to state regarding this new issue, that it is as full as that of Mr. Pearson. The present editor, Mr. R. H. Shepherd, has, however, followed a method more agreeable to the ordinary reader and really more satisfactory to the student, by modernising the orthography and not adhering to the misprints of the first editions. Thus Chapman's plays may now be read with tolerable ease; Mr. Pearson's reprint, meanwhile, retaining the attractions which old-fashioned type, quaint spelling, and chosen paper have for some tastes.

The chief feature of Messrs. Chatto and Windus' publication is the introductory Essay on George Chapman by Mr. Swinburne, a critical dissertation of such importance as to call for separate attention.

Nowhere perhaps has Mr. Swinburne composed a passage of more eloquent prose than that in praise of Marlowe which concludes the treatise. For the first time the whole truth has here been said about Marlowe, without hesitation and without stint, by one whose double gift of poetry and scholarship gives him the right to adjudicate the laurel *ex cathedra*. Nor is this noble panegyric of a singer whom many men of worth have praised, but whom none has hitherto commended duly, a mere piece of splendid rhetoric. Compared with Mr. Swinburne's prose in other portions even of this essay, the peroration is temperate in style, weighty with well-considered thought, and pregnant with such high philosophy of art as only a true poet can enunciate. This coronation of Marlowe at the hands of a brother bard has long been waited for. It is as though, reversing Shelley's line on Keats, the lyrist of our day should say to the great founder of the English stage:—

"Assume thy winged throne thou Phosphor of our throng."

Mr. Swinburne's panegyric of Marlowe grows out of his analysis of the peculiar quality of Chapman's genius. Chapman, like Jonson, was, he argues, a man who might have won distinction by his talents in many paths of life, a poet by choice of work, not by necessity of vocation. Heaviness of handling, the lack of true passion, labour substituted for immediate inspiration, analysis accepted in the stead of intuition, spoiled the best work of both:—

"The most ambitious and the most laborious poets of their day, conscious of high aims and large capacities, they would be content with no crown that might be shared by others; they had each his own severe and haughty scheme of study and invention, and sought for no excellence which lay beyond or outside it; that any could lie above, past the reach of their strong arms and skilful hands, past the scope of their keen and studious eyes, they would probably have been unable to believe or to conceive. And yet there were whole regions of high poetic air, whole worlds of human passion and divine imagination, which might be seen by humbler eyes than theirs, and trodden by feeblar feet, where their robust lungs were powerless to breathe, and their strenuous song fell silent. Not greater spirits alone, such as Marlowe's and Shakespeare's, but such lesser spirits as Decker's had the secret of ways unknown to them in the world of poetry, the key of chambers from which they were shut out."

That is delicately spoken as well as deeply thought. Here, again, are sentences which form the basis of a true critique of Chapman's merits as a translator:—"For all his labours in the field of Greek translation no poet was ever less of a Greek in style or spirit. He enters the serene temples, and handles the holy vessels of Hellenic art with the stride and the grasp of a high-handed and high-minded barbarian."

In another place Mr. Swinburne remarks: "The temperament of Chapman had more in it of an Icelandic than a Hellenic poet's; and had Homer been no more than the mightiest of skalds, or the *Iliad* than the greatest of sagas, Chapman would have been fitter to play the part of their herald or interpreter."

In addition to the limitations of his genius which Chapman shared with Jonson, and to this Hyperborean barbarism of temperament,

Mr. Swinburne points out that he suffered in no common measure from obscurity of thought and diction. The discussion of this charge, which can never cease to be repeated against Chapman, leads his critic to one of the most interesting digressions in the essay. While defining what is rightly termed a want of clearness, Mr. Swinburne lays it down that "only random thinking and random writing produce obscurity; and these are the radical faults of Chapman's style of poetry." This dictum forms part of a defence of Mr. Browning, "upon whom this fault has been wrongly charged by the inaccurate verdict of hasty judges." Even *Sordello* in Mr. Swinburne's opinion is "hard—not obscure;" and to tax Mr. Browning in general with obscurity "is about as accurate as to call Lynceus purblind or complain of the sluggish action of the telegraphic wire." To express disagreement with a critic so generous and so subtle as Mr. Swinburne shows himself to be in this apology for his brother-bard, is an invidious task from which any man might be excused for shrinking. Yet something ought to be said on the side of what is generally known as common sense. Average readers will probably continue to pronounce much of Mr. Browning's work, in spite of its unique poetic quality, obscure; and it may bethink them some ground for this opinion. Does, in fact, obscurity arise solely from random thinking and random writing? Is it only the fault of a "feeble and clouded, or of a vigorous but unfixed and chaotic intellect"? Or, again, granting these positions, is it quite certain that Mr. Browning never writes at random, that his thoughts are never hazy? It might be well to quote an instance, which shall be taken literally at a venture, from *Sordello*. Here is page 309 of the edition of 1863. *Sordello* has just abandoned the higher kind of poetry which aims at presenting ideal character in verse:—

"A few adhering rivets loosed, upsprings
The angel, sparkles off his mail, and rings
Whirled from each delicate limb it warps,
As might Apollo from the sudden corpse
Of Hyacinth have cast his luckless quito's."

Whatever definition we may give to obscurity, this surely is obscure: for how does the picture of Apollo clearing his quito's from the corpse of the suddenly-slain Hyacinth help to explain the metaphor of an angel who shakes off his mail and flies skyward? It is surely possible to be obscure in poetry by a superfetation of images, by elliptical expressions, by unwarranted grammatical inversions, and by a wilful choice of recondite illustrations; and I submit that all these sources of obscurity occur in the five lines quoted from *Sordello*. A classic poet by taking more trouble to master his own thoughts and to conform to the language of his nation, would have attained to limpidity of expression; nor would he have affected the fame of an oracle by wrapping up thoughts of no remarkable originality, however just and forcible, in complicated swathes of oblique phrases. What folk call Mr. Browning's obscurity is, in a great measure, due to his habit of stating simple propositions perplexedly. A seraph cannot be concocted by involving some common creature of the imagination, *κοῦφόν τι καὶ πτηνόν*, in an intellectual haze,

however luminous; and we are reasonably disappointed, after threading the mazes of a more than Cretan labyrinth, to find at its centre no Minotaur, but only an ordinary calf. It is, however, ungrateful to prosecute a polemic against the style of a poet to whom, for originality of fancy, subtlety of analysis, depth of thought, and novelty of form, English literature owes so much as it does to Mr. Browning. I would only suggest that it is possible to admire him most ardently, while admitting that at times he is not only difficult, but also, from whatever causes the critic chooses to assign, obscure.

Chapman's own dicta on the subject of obscurity are worthy of all notice. "That Poesy should be as perval as oratory, and plainness her special ornament, were the plain way to barbarism." Again: "That *energia*, or clearness of representation, required in absolute poems, is not the perspicuous delivery of a low invention; but high and hearty invention expressed in most significant and unaffected phrase." Nothing could be better. If all poets acted up to this rule, the charge of obscurity would be blown back from their grave and heightened utterances against the wits of those who used it. Milton, who thought it was the poet's function "with a solid and treatable smoothness to paint out and describe" all fair, wise, and sublime passions and actions of humanity, will never be found, in spite of his sometimes abstruse argument, to have led his reader by the light of a Will-o'-the-Wisp into the middle of a morass or to the side of a dry heath. The labour spent upon his lines is amply repaid by the thoughts contained in them.

Without attempting to notice more than a few points of interest discussed by Mr. Swinburne in this essay, I may call attention to one remark, which, coming from a poet of high station, should be well weighed by all critics and students:—

"Only the silliest and shallowest of pedants and schoolists can imagine that a question as to the date or the authorship of any poem can be determined by mere considerations of measure and mechanical computation of numbers; as though the language of a poem were divisible from the thought, or (to borrow a phrase from the Miltonic theology) the effluence were separable from the essence of a man's genius."

No one has more right than a born poet to express a dictum of this kind upon the false methods of criticism applied to his own art by men who are not poets. We feel sure, while reading it, that Shakspeare and Sophocles would have confirmed the verdict, and have smiled at the attempt to prove the birth-dates of their tragedies by counting syllables.

This review began with the peroration of Mr. Swinburne's essay; nor can it end without a further most emphatic recommendation of the whole triumphal passage which opens with "The name of Chapman" and closes with "the name of Christopher Marlowe." All lovers of style, for whom strong thoughts conveyed in splendid language and rhythmic periods of cadenced prose yield pleasure pure and undefiled, will find a music far above singing in this noble piece of English. J. A. SYMONDS.

Cobden Club Essays. Local Government and Taxation. (London: Cassell, Petter & Galpin, 1875.)

THE early economists would have been puzzled at these Essays. Quesnay and his followers thought only of a central government with duties limited by natural law, and Adam Smith's general conception of government was nearly the same. He remarks, indeed, that public works for local convenience are best left to local administration, but without indicating how the line is to be drawn between local and general convenience, or how the local authorities are to be constituted. Taken in its full extent there are three main enquiries concerning local government: first, its sphere and objects; secondly, the constitution of the governing bodies, with their relations to the central government; and, thirdly, the method of taxation. Each of these enquiries, again, branches into three, the first two of which are subsidiary to the last. We can investigate the actual character of local institutions, their history, and the principles according to which they ought to be framed or reformed. Pure Benthamite philosophy would have concerned itself little with the two first of these branches; it would have proceeded at once to determine from general principles the whole theory of local government. This volume of Essays is one of several indications of a change in the method of English political philosophy, and of the substitution of the inductive and historical for the *a priori* method. It shows a conviction that one of the best contributions both to the philosophy of local government and to practical legislation respecting it, is to be found in a study of the system existing in different countries, and of its history in each, with the changes it has undergone, the causes of its development or degeneracy, and the traditions and other conditions under which it has to work.

Mr. Brodrick's essay, with which the volume opens, is an admirable example of the method of studying the subject from this point of view. The historical investigations which his and other essays in the volume contain have, moreover, an independent interest, which ought to attract readers who may not be disposed for the drier branches of the subject. The essays whose historical connexion is closest are not those which lie together on the three kingdoms at the beginning of the book, but those farthest apart, namely, Mr. Brodrick's on England and Mr. Morier's on Germany; M. de Laveleye's in the middle, on Belgium and Holland, being an excellent companion to both. On several points these three essays serve to illustrate, supplement, and correct one another. Mr. Morier and M. de Laveleye bring into view some aspects of the history and structure of English local government which might escape the reader of Mr. Brodrick's excellent essay by itself; and the latter, again, considerably modifies an impression which might be derived from Mr. Morier, with respect to the perfection of English local institutions, and the inherent aptitude of the English people for self-government. The history of English local government, as Mr. Brodrick narrates it, is

the history of a decline in self-government on the part of the bulk of the people in both country and town.

"It is impossible," as he says, "to survey county administration without being struck by the extraordinary absence of self-government in rural communities; nine-tenths of the population in an English county having, at this moment, less share in local government than belonged to all classes of freemen for centuries before and for centuries after the Norman Conquest, and not merely less share in local government than belongs to French peasants at the present day, but less than belonged to French peasants under the eighteenth century monarchy."

Of the degeneracy of boroughs, as shown in the famous Report on Municipal Corporations, Mr. Brodrick is driven to confess "that such a mockery of self-government should have prevailed so widely for more than a century must ever be a reproach to constitutional monarchy in England, and a warning against a presumptuous reliance on the political virtues of the English people."

These passages are the best comment on Mr. Morier's observation that

"it is marvellous to observe how, partly owing to the free instincts of the English race, partly to their tenacious hold on what was old, partly to their adaptability to what was new, we succeeded in avoiding all the blunders made by our Continental kinsmen."

The real practical lesson to be learnt from English history is that inherent political instincts and capacities are not among the conditions under which the problem of local government has to be worked out in this any more than in other countries. The Russian peasant, as may be gathered from Mr. Ashton Dilke's instructive essay, might dispute Mr. Morier's proposition that "the spirit of free association may be looked upon as the *differentia* of the Teutonic race." And M. de Laveleye tells how the loss of public spirit early contributed to deprive the bulk of the people alike in England and in other Teutonic countries of self-government. They "got tired of administering justice. They neglected to attend the public assemblies. From indifference, from discouragement, sometimes from fear, they let the administration pass into the hands of the leading men. History proves that men have been deprived of their rights as often by indifference and apathy as by the usurpation of those who wished to enslave them."

Both political philosophy, one may add, and historical science will always have an obstacle to contend with, so long as assumptions respecting inherent qualities of race are admitted to a place in their theories by men of the intellectual calibre of Mr. Morier.

One of the historical aspects of the subject which Mr. Morier's essay brings into view is that an "economic law"—the necessity for a division of labour consequent on the increasing complexity of both public and private business—played a part in depriving the poorer classes both in England and Germany of their ancient rights of local self-government. And two lessons are to be learned from this operation of economic causes; namely, on the one hand, the importance of economic considerations in framing political institutions; and, on the other hand, the fallaciousness of the economic doctrine, on which one school of political thinkers has built, of the necessary harmony

of private with public interest. A good example of the manner in which economic conditions are to be taken into account in the organisation of local institutions is afforded by Mr. Brodrick's remarks (p. 31) on the respective dimensions of the county, the union, and the parish, as determining in some degree the nature of their management and the classes who can take part in it.

Mr. Morier sets in a clearer light than Mr. Brodrick does, an important aspect of two great English local institutions, trial by jury and the commission of the peace; in both of which local is combined with central government, and Professor Gneist's theory, concisely expounded by Mr. Morier, holds good, that local bodies in England are public bodies doing the work of the State, not mere deputies doing the work of the locality. On the other hand, the English magistrate virtually holds office by the right of his acres; and, as Mr. Mill says in his *Representative Government*, "the Quarter Sessions is the most aristocratic institution which now remains in England, far more than the House of Lords, for it grants public money and disposes of important public interests, not in conjunction with a popular assembly, but alone." Mr. Morier's erudition in German political and historical philosophy does credit to the English diplomatic body to which he belongs; but he seems to have forgotten that he has, in Professor Stubbs, a countryman as learned in English constitutional history as either Professor Gneist or Professor Sohm. Had he studied the former as carefully as the two latter, he might have modified some of his statements, and he would hardly have reproduced the story of the creation of 60,000 knight's fees as evidence of William the Conqueror's political genius.

The editor expresses regret on behalf of the Cobden Club that it was impossible to include in it several important countries besides those whose local institutions are discussed in the volume. It would, however, have far exceeded our limits to notice more than a few points in some of those it contains. Mr. McNeel Caird's on Scotland is the only one which touches on the incidence of local taxation; and it is a mark of good sense and clearness of thought that he does not pretend that the rough canons laid down by writers of theoretical treatises enable him to determine exactly on whom every local tax falls. Speaking of dwelling-houses, he says:—

"In a community which is prosperous and increasing in population, and the demand for houses consequently great, the house-rates, as a rule, will fall ultimately on the tenant. In a community which is declining, the rates will fall ultimately on the landlord. Between the extremes the demand will fluctuate, and the rates be ultimately divided between landlord and tenant in every variety of degree."

Some of Mr. Caird's positions on this branch of the subject, qualified as they are, might be shown to need further qualification; but his essay has a value independent of the point.

The volume on the whole is, in our judgment, one of the most valuable contributions to political science and history which has been made in England for many years.

T. E. CLIFFE LESLIE.

WHIST.

The Laws and Principles of Whist. By Cavendish. Tenth Edition, revised and greatly enlarged. (London: De la Rue & Co., 1874.)

In a former article we alluded to the fact that the literature of card-playing was almost entirely devoted to one game, Whist, the high intellectual character of which had gained for it the earnest attention of many able thinkers and writers. It will be interesting now to notice Whist literature a little more fully.

The game appears to have been formed on a principle now much in vogue, namely, progressive evolution. The earliest ancestor we can trace for it, is a game called Triumph, or *trump*, in common use at the beginning of the sixteenth century; but it was not till 1720 that Whist can be said to have taken its present form, the first clear description of it being the well-known *Short Treatise on the Game of Whist*, by Edmond Hoyle. This immortal personage taught whist professionally, and his book was a print of memoranda he was in the habit of giving his pupils.

We need not do more than mention a dramatic satire, *The Humours of Whist*, published in 1743; and *Whist*, a poem in twelve cantos, that appeared in 1791. The next work of importance was Mathews' *Advice to the Young Whist Player*, published at Bath, in 1800. This, and Hoyle's work, furnished till a few years ago the standard guides for whist-playing; they contain sound useful maxims, and may be read, even in the present more advanced state of knowledge, with advantage.

In 1839 there was announced a *Traité du Whist*, by M. Deschappelles, a fine French player. It was conceived on a large plan, but only a fragment appeared, of such singular merit and originality as to lead us to regret that the author, who died some years afterwards, never carried out his grand conception.

Passing over other works and writings on whist of no value, we may come at once to what may be called the more modern scientific development of the game. Thoughtful men, by giving constant attention to it had been led to perceive that it was capable of being played in a manner in advance of that contemplated by Hoyle and Mathews, and the improved modes became gradually introduced, though nothing had been done to reduce them to a systematic form, or to lay them clearly before the public.

In December, 1861, a suggestion was made, in an article on Card Games in *Macmillan's Magazine*, that "it would be a great boon if some good authority would publish a set of model games of whist, with explanatory remarks, such as were found so useful in chess, for example."

We have reason to believe that this suggestion gave rise to the work mentioned at the head of our article; the main object of which, in its original form, was the publication of a series of model hands, with notes and explanations, so contrived as to illustrate the improved modern play.

The book had, as it deserved, a great success, and it was followed by two other treatises—one by the late Mr. James Clay,

M.P. for Hull, being an able dissertation on the more refined points of modern play; the other, on the Theory of Whist, being an attempt to reduce the new rules into a logical connected system.

These works have been undoubtedly instrumental in producing a great revolution in whist-playing generally, as they have been the means of spreading widely among the public the knowledge which before was confined to small coteries of club players.

As a further proof of the interest excited by the modern literature of Whist, we may mention two articles that have lately appeared in our highest class periodicals: one, in *Fraser's Magazine* for April, 1869, "Whist and Whist Players," by a well-known essayist; the other "Modern Whist," in the *Quarterly* of January, 1871.

Cavendish's work has lately reached its tenth edition, which has been carefully revised, and has received some additions and alterations. It would be superfluous to say anything in commendation of the book generally; its large circulation is sufficient testimony to the estimation in which it is held. We need only remark on some specialities of the present edition.

So far as we can judge, the general rules, or, as the author calls them, "principles," of play appear to have undergone no material alteration, except in one case, that of the *discard*. The former rule was, always to discard from your weak or short suit; and, in order not to mislead your partner, this rule was to be followed implicitly in all cases, even at the risk of unguarding an honour. But it came to be seen that this often involved disadvantage, when the game was in danger; and the rule has been modified as follows:—

"It is clear that if the opponents declare great strength in trumps (by leading trumps or asking for them), your chance of bringing in a suit is practically *nil*. You should, therefore, in such cases abandon the tactics you would otherwise adopt, and play to guard your weaker suits by discarding from your best protected suit, which is generally your longest suit.

"If this system of discarding is comprehended by the two players who are partners, it follows as a matter of course that when trumps are *not* declared against you, your partner will assume you are *weak* in the suit from which you originally threw away. But when trumps are declared against you he will give you credit for *strength* in the suit from which you originally threw away.

"In the first case he will refrain from leading the suit from which you have discarded; in the second he will, unless he has a very strong suit of his own, select for his lead the suit in which you have shown strength by your discard."

This is an admirable rule, which ought to be made absolute in all good whist circles.

Another good novelty is an attempt to systematise certain exceptional modes of play, arising out of accidental circumstances, and which are usually called *coups*. These have generally been shown in isolated examples, and it has been assumed that they are to be dictated on the spur of the moment by the genius of the player. Cavendish, however, tries, and not unsuccessfully, to reduce some of them to general forms which, if borne in mind, will often prompt their application in a systematic way.

We are sorry to see that an alteration, in our opinion for the worse, has been made in

the form of the illustrative hands. These have constituted the best and most original feature of Cavendish's work, and it would be a pity if they should lose in usefulness and value. We never heard any reasonable objection to the original common sense form, which made the fortune of the book, and should be glad to see it restored.

In two appendices to this edition the author has proposed extensions of what are called *conventional* modes of play, designed with the view of giving information to the partner;—one in leading from suits of more than four cards, the other in what he terms "echoing" the ordinary signal for trumps.

No authority can be higher than his own for any recommendations on these heads; but the general subject of conventions at whist is now assuming a grave form, and is beginning to call for the earnest consideration of intelligent and upright-minded players. Certain conventional arrangements have been allowed to be necessary, in order to ensure that regular and systematic play which is the essence of the modern game; but they have lately been carried to an extent which has met with much criticism. The "signal for trumps" (a conventional mode of play of two indifferent cards, in order to call on your partner to lead trumps, when it is to your advantage) is the most prominent example of this. It is adopted in the London clubs, but is objected to in many country whist circles of good players; and we believe it is universally and absolutely forbidden on the Continent, where the game is cultivated now almost as much as in England.

Cavendish being a thoroughly practical book, the author has not troubled himself about the philosophy of these conventions. The only places where we have seen any reasoning on the subject are in Mr. Clay's work and in the *Quarterly Review* article above alluded to. Mr. Clay gives an elaborate and ingenious defence of the signal for trumps; and the *Quarterly* takes up the argument in favour of conventions generally. But in the face of so wide a disapproval as has been manifested to the trump call, we should be inclined to hesitate in encouraging further extensions of the conventional system, or at least to doubt whether the subject has been so fully and so fairly considered as it ought to be.

There is one view of the question which we think should have some moral weight; that is, the immensely increased advantage which these conventions give to superior players. Attention has lately been strongly called * to large losses at whist by inexperienced young men, with more money than brains, who are infatuated enough to play for high stakes with players of much higher skill. There can be no doubt that, owing to the modern conventions, the pull of the better players over them is much increased.

It has been said that whist is not suitable for gambling, but we cannot understand such an assertion. It is surely as easy to bet 1,000*l.* on a rubber as to stake it on the red or black at Monaco; while, if high points be played, there is (which there is

not at Monaco) the additional certainty of heavy losses against superior skill. Hence high whist may be even more dangerous to inexperienced rich youth than the regulated public gambling which has excited so much condemnation.

This danger the modern signals largely enhance. We do not say that the use of acknowledged conventions to the disadvantage of inferior players can be stigmatised as unfair; but we think that, as a matter of principle, the moral expediency of such a one-sided system requires more strict examination. And, moreover, we are by no means satisfied that the conventional modes of play more recently introduced have been proved to be consistent with the legitimate constitution of the game.

It would be out of place to enter on such a large discussion here. We commend it to writers and thinkers on whist (the latter much rarer than the former) as an important social problem. W. POLE.

Untrodden Spain and her Black Country. By Hugh James Rose. In Two Volumes. (London: S. Tinsley, 1875.)

THIS is a somewhat provoking book. The author, who was till lately chaplain to the English, French, and German mining companies of Linares, is a parson after the late Charles Kingsley's own heart. Fond of fishing, both in sea and river, a cross-country rider, and a good shot, "hail-fellow well met" with everyone, selecting his companion for the day's walk or sport from fisherman, peasant, sportsman, miner, or country-guard, he seems equally at home with all, and able always to draw out the best points in the characters of each. He has, too, a keen eye both for the beauties of nature and for the humours and oddities of all he meets with, both man and beast. Hence the pictures he draws are generally spirited and accurate. It is only when he gives loose to a sentimental and quasi-poetic vein, when he would fain discover something noble or touching in what is only commonplace, when he endeavours to force the meditative mood, and succeeds only in maundering, that we have any fault to find with those parts of his book which at all correspond to its title. For the reader, unless Spain be altogether a *terra incognita* to him, will wonder how a detailed description of Cadiz and its well-known charitable institutions, of Cordova, and of a bull-fight at Madrid, can come under the denomination of "untrodden Spain."

The book, too, shows an utter want of any kind of arrangement. It will hardly be believed that a whole chapter giving a very readable account of the celebrated "Casa de Misericordia," or "Hospicio," of Cadiz, is headed, from its first page to its last, "A work of Mercy at Madrid." At other times the only indication is "the town whence I am writing," or the vague phrase "in the interior." The repetitions, too, are most wearying. Four times over is the same story told of the author firing his revolver at a lover of his servant, and of the conduct of the "sereno," the watchman, on that occasion. An almost identical description is given three or four times over of Spanish

* See articles in the *Times* of February 12, and in the *Saturday Review* of March 20, 1875.

cemeteries, though there is nothing at all remarkable about them. Copies of the announcements of funerals, which are just like the French "faire part;" and epitaphs, which state only the dates of birth and death, are given in one chapter in English, and in another are repeated in Spanish. So too with the sentiments: some of the pet ones are repeated *ad nauseam*; e.g., "the smell of a spring flower, or the question of a little child," "God made the country, but man made the town," with meditations on them, like the variations of a country composer on some hackneyed air, recur continually. In fact, through a great part of the book, each chapter commences as if the rest had never been written or thought of.

But why are we so severe? Because the book is worth severity. Some of the chapters—such as those on the poor, on the fish-market, on the garden, on miners, and on maidservants—are simply delightful, and several others would be equally so with a little pruning. We learn to know the personages of these chapters almost as if they were our own acquaintance. We cannot indeed help thinking that the writer will see these things with very different eyes in a couple of years time, if he continue in Spain. One drunken man saying to another "Vaya V. con Dios," will sound no more like blasphemy to him then, than its equivalent English "good-bye" does now. But it is this very newness from England, this looking at all things with strange eyes, that gives such life and freshness to his sketches. We would no more wish to exchange this for a more sober and literal view of things than we would exchange the lively prattle of a bright enthusiastic girl for the dull argument of a sexagenarian statistician. Only let us warn all sailors and others, that although the story of the dead-drunk tar in the streets of Cadiz being carried to a comfortable lodging, and having his watch and money taken from him only to be restored in the morning, may be true as an exceptional case, it is by no means the rule. It was once our duty to attend for some months a small British hospital in a Spanish port, and during that time, besides one man killed outright, the heaviest cases were those of helpless English sailors beaten almost to death by Spanish mobs.

Many chapters of the book make us long to have been with the author in his stroll through fish-markets, in his walks over the bare Manchegan hills, or to take a turn with him in the winter garden. Full well we know the difficulty of extracting the name of bird, or beast, or fish, or flower from a Spanish peasant. He has been more successful than ever we were; only we wonder that he seems never to have met with the queer stories of bird and beast mythology which have been occasionally told to ourselves in answer to enquiries about their natural history.

Though the book is entitled *Untrodden Spain*, yet it refers wholly (with the exception of a shooting trip to Galicia, in which the author studied beasts and not men) to the provinces south of Madrid; and unconsciously the author brings out most vividly the contrast between the South and the North of Spain. It is hard to see what political rule

can suit the two. Nothing can be more unlike the republican, creedless, reckless Andalusian than the royalist, mystic, tenacious Basque; the man who, bigoted and narrow-minded as he may be, is yet honest to the backbone, and will give his money, his life, his everything to the cause he believes to be right, and not only so, will bequeath it as an heirloom to his family to do the same. The picture of the North is dark just now, but that of the South, without faith in anything at all, with only its reckless sensuous enjoyment of the present, as here drawn, seems to us to be darker still. There are still many points of excellence in the Spanish character; but the prevailing ignorance, corruption, lawlessness, and, in the South, utter want of patriotism, render these of no avail. The noble and excellently managed charitable institutions of Cadiz and of Seville have no copies in the smaller towns. The model schools, equally good in their way, remain models which no one imitates. The laws are good, but are not enforced; and a corrupt justice renders the services of the excellent "Guardias civiles" powerless to put down brigandage and a hundred other evils. Truly the picture is dark, nor do we yet see from what quarter light is to arise.

Every great poet has his shadow following him in the shape of imitator or of parodist. And so the graphic and enthusiastic descriptions of the Ammergau Passion-play have produced numberless imitations. Men now find Ammergau plays everywhere, in Germany, in the Pyrenees, in Belgium—and all over Southern Europe. And so our author writes of the procession of huge wooden images at Baeza in the Holy Week, and of the movements of their wooden limbs by means of springs, in terms that could only be literally applied to the finest and most earnest acting. And the religious effect produced is estimated as superior to that of the most fervent preaching. Even the evidence of his own senses will not convince the writer to the contrary. "True," he writes, vol. ii. p. 254, "I have heard the indecent jest and the ribald sneer, but it has been beautifully said that, even of those whose lips utter such language, it may be that 'coming to scoff, they stay to hear.'" We can only say that some score of years ago, before the Ammergau mystery made it fashionable to feel thus, we turned away in disgust from such processions; and the only excuse which we then heard for the obscenity and the blasphemy which poured from the lips of man, woman, and child, on the passage of the effigy of Judas, was that "it brought good luck for the rest of the year." We thought then that this was a legacy of the Arabs to Spain; but it may be only the latest phase of Christianity.

If we have been too severe, we quote in extenuation the author's shortest chapter, "a Spaniard's estimate of English politeness:"—

"I thought the Englishman was drunk when he knocked me down; but, when he begged my pardon, I knew he was!" The above is all I shall offer on this point; it speaks for itself better than any words of mine."

Though we cannot praise the book unreservedly in its present form, we believe

that in a revised and shorter edition it would be a great favourite with the general reader, and not without value to the historian, as a lively picture of the social state of Andalusia and La Mancha during the republican years 1873-74.

WENTWORTH WEBSTER.

Histoire du Protestantisme dans l'Albigeois et le Lauragais, depuis son Origine jusqu'à la Révocation de l'Edit de Nantes. Par Camille Rabaud, Pasteur, Président de Consistoire de Castres. In One Volume 8vo. (Paris: Sandoz et Fischbacher.)

THE Albigeois and the Lauragais are two small territories close to one another in the south of France, lying on the western slope of that chain of the Cevennes which, traversing under different names the whole of the south-east of France, joins the Vosges to the Pyrenees.

The Albigeois, the capital of which is Albi, is now part of the department of the Tarn; and the Lauragais belongs to the Aude. Its capital is Castelnaudary, but its most important town is Castres.

This corner of France has always been a seed-bed of heresy, and everyone knows that the Albigeois has given its name to that Manichaean sect which spread through the whole of the south of France in the Middle Ages, and which was stifled at the beginning of the thirteenth century by the most horrible massacres.

The memory of these terrible events was not effaced from the minds of the population, and the hatred of Catholicism was still lying dormant in the hearts of the men of these southern regions, when the Reformed doctrines began to be preached in these countries. The descendants of the Albigeois embraced them with enthusiasm. No doubt the doctrines of Luther and Calvin had no relation to the theory of Manichaean dualism which had been the main point in the Albigeoisian faith. But if to their great advantage they differed entirely from those old opinions, they contained a still more energetic and conscientious protest against the gross errors and detestable abuses of Catholicism. Hence their rapid progress in a land where the mere name of Catholicism reminded men of terrible scenes of violence and murder. The Albigeois and the Lauragais, therefore, became at a very early time one of the centres of French Protestantism, and Castres was one of its most important churches. Yet in spite of this the history of this church and of those which surrounded it has been little known, and till now they have had no historian. They have at last found one in M. Rabaud, a native of the country, who was formerly pastor of Mazamet, and has for some years been President of the Consistory of Castres. No one is better qualified to undertake the task of writing such a history. The many ties which bind him to the country, and the just and singular esteem which he has inspired there, have given him an opportunity of consulting not only all the printed documents which could be of use to him, but also many precious MSS. which date from the period with which he deals, and which have furnished him with numberless details of the very greatest interest.

There is one thing, however, which the

student will seek for in vain in his book. That which is wanting to the history of French Protestantism is its origin. Even before Luther affixed his thesis to the door of the Wittenberg church, Lefèvre, of Etaples, taught at Paris, in 1512, doctrines analogous to those which afterwards were called Protestantism. The soil of France was therefore prepared for the Reformation. In 1521, Farel, one of Lefèvre's disciples, preached the same doctrine at Meaux, and the first name the French Protestants received was, "the Heretics of Meaux." In 1523 Le Clerc, one of these heretics, was branded on the forehead with a hot iron by the executioner. The year after, Pavannes was burnt alive at Paris in the Place de Grève, and opened the long list of the French Protestants who died for their faith. Here was the beginning of martyrdom. Thirty-seven years after the death of Pavannes, Coligny, in the conference at Poissy, presented to Catherine de Medici a list of 2,150 perfectly organised churches, and L'Hôpital estimated the numbers of those belonging to the Reformed faith at a quarter of the entire population of the kingdom.

The history of these thirty-seven years, during which Protestantism was making its way through France stealthily and silently, but with a wonderful rapidity, would be full of interest. Yet, according to all appearance, it will never be possible to write it. A profound obscurity broods over the whole period, and all that we can arrive at is a list of martyrs. From time to time a trial achieves sufficient importance to be heard of; the death of some unfortunate creature sacrificed without mercy to the passions of the day, proves that Protestantism had penetrated into such a town—and that is all. Even this martyrology is very incomplete. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Protestants perished during the period without history having cared to register their names. As to the hidden propagandism which in so short a time covered France with so many churches and multiplied its adherents to such a degree that they were able to hold in check for many years the whole force of Catholicism and the State, no one will ever be able to relate its history. M. Rabaud has done his best as far as his own district is concerned to fill up this regrettable gap; but documents are wanting, and the few details which he has been able to collect about the foundation of the Albigeois churches come to but very little. On the other hand, there are innumerable documents relating to the following period, which begins when the first General Synod met at Paris in 1559. By this time the churches have organised themselves; each town has a consistory at its head; it keeps its registers, and the Protestants have become more numerous, grow bolder, and in many places cease to think of concealing themselves. For this period, which ends with the Edict of Nantes, as well as for the following, when under the protection of the Edict the churches enjoyed a degree of rest, details are abundant, and M. Rabaud has only to make his selection. They are often sad enough. Nowhere did religious war rage more severely than in the part of France with which M. Rabaud has to deal. It seems as

if the cruel memories of the crusade against the Albigeois were still in the air, and that both parties were doing their best to repeat its horrors. The Parliament of Toulouse distinguished itself above all the sovereign courts of France by the severity with which it hunted after and punished heretics; and in this case severity meant cruelty and perfidy, for the most solemn oaths were disregarded when the Huguenots were in question. Gentlemen and soldiers were scarcely behind the magistrates in this. To put to the sword the whole garrison of a captured château, to massacre the entire population of a town, or of a village—men, women, and children—were ordinary occurrences repeated almost at every moment. During these long religious wars, every seigneurial castle was a fortress, every little town was surrounded by ramparts, and, if battles were rare, skirmishes, surprises, sieges, assaults were so incessant, that the historian refuses to take account of them.

The mountainous territories of the Albigeois and the Lauragais furnished rude soldiers to the Huguenot armies. It was there that the greatest part of that army was levied which was called the Viscounts' army, because it was commanded by seven gentlemen who bore that title, and which, 8,000 strong, descended into Lower Languedoc as far as Alais, and afterwards fighting without giving truce, reascended towards the north by the Vivarais to the borders of the Loire, beating at Ganat a far more numerous Catholic army which attempted to bar its passage. It then broke up the blockade of Orleans, where the Catholics were besieging the Princess of Condé, carried by storm Beaugency and Alois, and rejoined the rest of the Protestant forces under the walls of Chartres, after an expedition which was certainly the most extraordinary of the time, and which traced its progress in the most marvellous exploits.

Under the régime of the Edict of Nantes, the churches of the Albigeois and Lauragais breathed freely, and gave themselves a strong organisation. But when in Richelieu's time the religious wars began afresh, they once more played an important part. Castres was for some time Rohan's headquarters. Mazamet was taken and burnt by the Marquis de Ragny (1628), and horrible cruelties signalised afresh the Catholic victories. The peace which followed the taking of Rochelle restored tranquillity in these countries, but not for long. Under Louis XIV. the persecution once more began; the long list of tyrannical measures by which the great king prepared for the revocation of the Edict of Nantes afflicted the churches. Then came the revocation itself, when thousands of Protestants emigrated, the rest dissimulated, and bent their heads for a time, so that Louis XIV. could believe for an instant that there were no longer any Huguenots in France. Here M. Rabaud's story ends. We hope that he will continue it, and give us the history of the churches of the Albigeois during the period of the Desert, and of their reorganisation after '89. He is the more bound to do so, as he has shown that he possesses the qualities which make the exact, the learned, and the conscientious

historian. We have only to wish that he would enter less into detail, and would endeavour to draw a more complete picture of the general situation. Others may perhaps demand more impartiality in an historian. We cannot agree with them. In the strict and narrow sense of the word, M. Rabaud is not impartial. Between the victim and the executioner, he has made his choice long ago; and when he has to tell the story of some odious perfidy, or some hideous massacre, his indignation finds vent in strong language, and he grows really eloquent in branding the Catholic persecutors. Let us say once more that we cannot blame him for this. It is enough that he is a conscientious historian, and that he consults authorities of every kind, checking Catholic and Protestant documents by one another. We cannot ask him to silence the feelings of which his heart is full. But we think that he has given way to them too often, and that the blame which he has justly accorded to the persecutors would have gained something if, without being less vigorous, it had been less frequently expressed.

Perhaps, too, he has allowed himself to be completely absorbed in his own particular subject, and has not paid close enough attention to the general history of French Protestantism. For example, he thinks that the massacre of St. Bartholomew was premeditated, and prepared long beforehand by Charles X., which we cannot believe to have been the case. M. Rabaud's book, too, would have gained in interest if he had more frequently attached his special facts, if it were only by brief indications, to the events which were taking place in the rest of France. In this he has not avoided the general error of monographs.

Yet, in spite of these defects, M. Rabaud's book is most interesting and instructive, and seems destined to take a notable place in the already numerous collection of books which treat of the local history of French Protestantism in different provinces, or in different towns. The general history of the Reformed Church of France has still to be written. De Felice's brief volume is only an abridgement; in short, an elementary work, useful and serviceable, no doubt, but one in which the subject is scarcely more than cursorily touched. Yet this is the only existing complete book, the only general history which the French churches possess. On the other hand, we have abundance of fragmentary histories and of original documents. To the *France Protestante* of the Brothers Haag, an incomparable work, and to the numerous documents which the Société de l'Histoire du Protestantisme français has published in its *Bulletin* for twenty-two years, we can now add a large number of monographs. That which M. Rabaud has now done for the Albigeois and the Lauragais, M. Douen has accomplished for St. Quentin and the churches of the Aisne, the younger M. Athanase Coquerel for Paris, M. Vaurigaud for Brittany, M. Lièvre for Poitou, M. Crottet for Saintonge, M. Corbière for Montpellier, M. Hugues for Anduze, M. Borel for Nîmes, M. Neff for the Pays de Gex, etc. Thus by degrees the stones of the future edifice are being collected. They are now sufficiently numerous. May an his-

torian at last arise from among the Protestants of France—a man who has the good will, the leisure, and the talent. He will now be able to write a complete history of the Reformed Church, and to raise to it the monument which it may justly claim.

E. COQUEREL.

NEW NOVELS.

Ralph Wilton's Weird. By the Author of "The Wooing o't." (London: Bentley & Son, 1875.)

Bluebell. By Mrs. G. C. Huddleston. (London: S. Tinsley, 1875.)

Felicia. By M. Betham-Edwards. (London: Hurst & Blackett, 1875.)

His Queen. By Alice Fisher. (London: H. S. King & Co., 1875.)

Edith Dewar. By Colin Rae-Brown. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1875.)

ONE of the sharpest thorns in the cushion of the discreet novel-reader is the fatal frequency with which, to use Mr. Swiveller's figurative language, his gazelles marry market gardeners. One would imagine that the knack of novel-writing had something of the nature of fairy-money about it, so odd is the uncertainty of its appearance and disappearance. Some half-a-dozen times in every season we come across a first book which without showing startling genius seems to possess some talent, and to have at any rate a little of that peculiarity of savour without which there is nothing good in literature. Then we wait for the second book with a dreary and depressing foreknowledge of what that second book will most probably be. Of what it too often is we may see an example in *Ralph Wilton's Weird*. *The Wooing o't* was not a great novel, but it had some interest and something of its own. Mrs. Alexander's present book is as utterly commonplace in character and incident as anything we ever read. Its characters, besides some dummies, are three. There is an angelic governess of democratic principles, who is induced at last to incline to an adoring lover, because he "for once rose above the conventional gentleman into a natural true man." There is a good cousin who is the hero, and who is caressingly styled by the author "our patrician soldier." There is a wicked cousin, who profanely suggests of the angelic governess that she would be a "delightful travelling companion." This annoys the good cousin very much, which is natural, but, perhaps, unreasonable, as, according to his biographer, who ought to know, "it must not be asserted that the possibility of some tie less galling and oppressive than matrimony had never presented itself to his mind." However, the wickedness of the wicked cousin does no harm, and the goodness of the good cousin leads him to the heroic resolve to do as he wishes, and marry the angelic governess. His course of true love is only interrupted by one prodigious difficulty; his beloved has changed her address, and he has to ask the postman where she lives. Having by the aid of that useful officer surmounted this huge obstacle, he marries her, and is rewarded for this virtuous act with a large fortune.

Bluebell can be recommended to all those readers who are not too proud to take what they can get, and who can overlook a rather slangy exuberance of diction and occasional carelessness of writing, as a decidedly lively and amusing book. The first two volumes give a pleasant picture of that Paradise of artless flirtation, Canada. The flirtation is very artless indeed, and by no means up to the standard which an exacting proficient in the mystery might demand. But the benevolent philosopher may be mildly amused at beholding the portraiture of a state of things in which all creation is regarded as so much "cover" behind which kissing (our author would call it osculation) may or may not be effected. The English scenes of the third volume are not at all bad. But we should really be obliged to Mrs. Huddleston if she would, in consideration of our nerves, kindly spare us such sentences as the following:—"He had just thrown 'Peep-of-Day' at his nurse's head, which had been unwisely offered to him as a substitute for his favourite trumpet." If Canadian nurses are really subject to such unutterable barbarities, we hope it is handsomely "considered in their wages." Perhaps a worse fault, indicating as it does not merely carelessness of writing but confusion of thought, is the way in which the names and circumstances of to-day are used in speaking of the time before the Crimean war. But the book is readable, and for this now rare mercy one cannot be too thankful.

It is unnecessary to describe the agonies of reviewing *Felicia*, because Shelley has kindly done the description ready to our hand in *Peter Bell the Third*. Like the reviewers there mentioned, we were "gaping and torpid" by the time we reached the end. Whether the book, judged by measure and balance, be actually longer than its fellows we cannot say, and nothing would induce us to take it up again for the purposes of calculation. But its utter dullness makes it appear endless. It is impossible to describe the plot, for there is none, or the characters, for they are like Mr. Pope's "most women." There is certainly a hero; we can say thankfully that we never met such a hero before, and hope fervently that we may never meet such a one again. Alexander Smith once happily and tersely summed up the characteristics of the class to which this hero belongs in the words "a ginger-beer bottle burst." But this bottle has not even strength of mind or body enough to burst him. The man—his name is the Reverend Mr. Strickland—divides his time between quarrelling with his bread and butter and lamenting his hard fate at being left breadless and butterless. Every thing and person that is brought into contact with him—the Thirty-nine Articles which he can't stomach, the six hundred a-year which he gives up because of this squeamishness, the school-boys he has to teach, the young women whom he can't make up his mind to marry when they are willing, and who very sensibly change their minds by the time he has made up his own—all serve as occasions for endless moaning and groaning, while the remaining characters of the book (including five other clerical gentlemen) chiefly stand round him exclaiming "Poor

dear man, how he is tried!" As a sort of secondary subject we have German music-mania, which is not much more deftly or amusingly treated than the reverend hero's woes. Miss Edwards has chosen to invent the impossible word *ἀδισπόρης*, which she is pleased to tell us is, when placed on a tombstone, a "meekest inscription." A lady is not bound to know Greek, still less to use it; but if she does use it, it might just as well be correct. As it happens, *ἀδισπόρος*, which we suppose she means, would be a singularly arrogant epitaph.

Miss Alice Fisher has apparently set her heart upon composing a novel which shall be as unlike as possible to the well-known "disappointing little book," by being exceedingly bitter to the taste at first, and afterwards decidedly sweet. She has selected her means for the accomplishment of the first part of this end with great care and judgment, by writing the work throughout in the present tense. In our idler moments we have often speculated on the possible motives which may incite persons of presumably sound mind to the commission of this too common atrocity. It must, unlike most other sins, give its perpetrators a great deal of trouble, and it is difficult to imagine even the most depraved taste deriving any satisfaction from the result. In the second place, Miss Fisher has written the first hundred pages of her book in the most extraordinary patchwork of jargon that we have ever read. If we suppose a quartette composed of Onida, Mr. Mortimer Collins, an undergraduate in his second term, and an earnest young curate with some abilities, to be desirous of giving us an English *Croix de Berny*, some idea of the opening chapters of *His Queen* may be obtained. But at about the hundredth page the author begins to relent, and her real ability, of which she evidently has plenty, begins to assert itself, nor have we from that point anything to complain of except the abominable present tense and an occasional relapse into undue archness and jauntiness of style. Miss Fisher's power of imagining character is very considerable, and she has used it to good purpose, as far at least as the chief hero and heroine—the "he" and the "queen" of the title—are concerned. The hero is perhaps the less probable and successful of the two, certainly he is the less original, as there are numerous touches about him reminding one of the late Mr. Kingsley's earlier characters, especially Paul Tregarva. But the heroine is admirably conceived and very far from badly drawn. She is neither the ordinary commonplace woman, nor the equally ordinary white devil of innumerable plays and novels. Her perfect selfishness, a selfishness not at all greater than that of most people, but of such a clear and simple kind that it does not need or care to check or disguise itself, or, indeed, to pay any attention to itself at all, is excellently natural. None of her faults is in the least degree repulsive; one can see that they are all committed purely because of the circumstances in which she is placed. In these circumstances she does the best for herself to the best of her judgment, and, when she fails, as we all do and must fail often, one

is heartily sorry for her. When the man who loves her best in the world, and whom in a way she loves, has told her that in case of his death, which is very probable, he has left her the whole of his fortune, she goes to church and sits looking affectionately at him, and thinking how happy she will be with some one else when he is dead. Why should she not? She desires the end, and is far too logical not to desire the means. We do not know that Miss Fisher quite understands and appreciates her own creation, and this (with the present tense) rather mars our enjoyment of the book. But it is a book of extraordinary promise, of very great interest, and of unquestionable power, and were the faults we have mentioned (which lie only on the surface) removed, would be a most distinguished success.

It is, we think, Mr. Robert Buchanan who suggests, for the better prevention of the crime of criticism, that every critic should be compelled to publish a statement of his tastes and qualifications. Specimens are given, if we remember, which read like a cross between a census return and a leaf from one of those odd little "Like and Dislike" books with which very young ladies used to afflict their friends some ten or twelve years ago. For ourselves the plan has no terrors, but we conceive that it might with immense benefit be "passed on," in the schoolboy sense, to novelists. In default of this, we have applied a careful process of analysis to the discovery of Mr. Rae-Brown's qualifications and tastes, with the following results. Mr. Rae-Brown's ideal poet is apparently Sheridan Knowles, with copious extracts from whose beauties he enriches his work; his ideal historian would seem to be Blind Harry, and his ideal sensual pleasure is confessedly heavy tea on board a steamboat. He thinks that Ulsters were worn in 1857, that Calvin was a native of Switzerland, and that Professor Huxley is responsible for the statement that the Scots were of Irish extraction. Lastly, he thinks that a girl of eighteen, having just fallen in love, would be likely to soliloquise thus:—

"His delivery so resembles my papa's, and yet is so much more like that of one who thoroughly believes every word he utters. I am certain—I would stake my life—he is as good and gentle and kind as he is eloquent. *How happy his mother and aunt must be in the constant society of such a man!*"

After the exquisite absurdity of this last sentence, it is probably unnecessary to say that *Edith Dewar* is quite worthless as a novel. We are afraid that its disquisitions on Sheridan Knowles, on various obscure theological celebrities, and on the scenery between Glasgow and Oban, do not suffice to give it much value as anything else.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

THE Clarendon Press Series is publishing the separate plays of Sophocles, as edited by Mr. Campbell for university study, and adapted for schools by Mr. Abbott (Sophocles, *Antigone*, Clarendon Press, 1874). Unless Mr. Jebb will deign to finish the school editions of Sophocles of which he has given us so small but so valuable an instalment, we can wish for nothing better. It is true that we have not here that perfection of

taste and wealth of scholarship which make the editions of the *Electra* and *Ajax* in the "Catena Classicorum" books which form an epoch in a boy's studies. But we have a useful and tolerably accurate edition which explains most difficulties, and removes obstacles to learning the lesson. The notes seem to be sometimes too technical, and generally deficient in the inculcation of grammatical facts, which are enforced with much greater spirit as an observation on the texts than when they are culled from the *hortus siccus* of a grammar. We have not space for many criticisms. *καλχαίνου* in line 20 is surely rather "darkening" than "heaving," and the *παγκοίνους* *Δηούς* *κολποῖς* refers rather to the enfolding embrace of the landlocked bay than to the "vale" of Eleusis, where there is, properly speaking, no vale at all. But our chief quarrel is with the translations. They apparently aim at that combination of literalness and elegance which results in English prose gone mad, in expressions utterly unintelligible without the Greek text, and utterances which could be found nowhere, except perhaps in the Anglo-Indian prize tragedy of a laureate Baboo. Antigone, for instance, remarks of her brother that he is "to the vultures a sweet treasure, as they eye him for the gratification of food;" that "man is wonderful and irrepressible alike in legislation and in the defiance of law." As the plot thickens and the *dénouement* approaches, the English becomes more wild. The voice of his child "touches" Creon "with recognition," Haemon "panting hard cast on the pale cheek" of Antigone "a sharp breath of gory dewdrops;" and Creon, while the bier is before him on the stage, in his broken utterances of woe, exclaims to the sound of plaintive music, "The slaughter of my wife is heaped upon previous slaughter." Would it not be better to throw elegance to the winds, and copy the translations of the baldest volume in Bohn's series, than to lead boys to imagine that the greatest Greek tragedies were written in a language which veils under a false poetry of sound and form vague, unintelligible, and aimless nonsense. The last mentioned faults are entirely avoided in Mr. Sidgwick's edition of the *Bacchae* (Rivingtons, 1874). It is the work of a finished scholar and a consummate teacher. Mr. Sidgwick has condensed the *Bacchae* into 729 lines, just enough for a boy to read in one term. The play is divided into scenes, with headings which make the action intelligible, while stage directions introduced with admirable tact and taste enliven the reader, and make the duller boy understand that the play was really acted before a more crowded audience than ever fills our theatres; and perhaps moved an Athenian mob to admiration by the studied gestures of the perfect actor. The notes are short and exactly to the point; the product of a clear mind, which knows precisely what is wanted, and how it should best be given. The play thus edited is babes'-meat for the young scholar whose digestion would revolt from the long-drawn prolixities of the original work. Mr. Sidgwick has edited four other plays of Euripides and four of Aristophanes, and they deserve to be in constant use in all places of secondary education. A grammatical index adds greatly to the practical value of the play before us.

Messrs. Parker, of London and Oxford, have published among their "Greek Texts with Notes" an edition of Xenophon's *Memorabilia*. The book appears to be carefully edited, and to contain enough elucidation for the understanding of the text. Each book is preceded by a carefully drawn up argument which offers a guide through the intricacies of the dialogue, and if carefully followed might succeed in making the *Memorabilia* a little less tedious than we fear it is generally found. There is a good Greek index, and one of proper names. *Short Exercises in Latin Prose Composition*, by the Rev. Henry Belcher (Macmillan and Co.), seems to be very well suited to its purpose of teaching the rudiments of Latin to beginners.

The rules are those of the Public School Primer, and the exercises are composed after the manner of Ollendorff. It is, perhaps, better in these cases that the words of the exercise should be comparatively meaningless, than that they should consist of neatly turned epigrams as the *Eton Noces*. We have heard of a Hebrew Ollendorff which consisted of such examples as these: "Three Jews hung up ten harps on five willow trees;" "My father-in-law's heart is inditing of a good matter." But no such absurdity is possible in a Latin book, where we are inured to Balbus and his wall. The book contains also useful examination papers and a vocabulary. Messrs. Longmans send us some editions of classical texts, bound uniformly, and apparently destined for University local examinations. *Herodotus, Book VI.*, by the Rev. H. Lovell, is one of these, and does not appear to us a very satisfactory production. The text is well and clearly printed, and each chapter has a heading which epitomises its contents; but the Introduction is dull and pompous, and would be but little intelligible to boys. The notes seem to be correct as far as they go, but it is sometimes difficult to discover their precise *raison d'être*, and why there should be so many or why no more; and although the book contains the history of the battle of Marathon, there are no maps or plans. The *Prometheus Vincit*, with notes by the Rev. North Pinder, is a much more satisfactory book. The notes are good and adequate. Their chief fault lies in this, that the action of the play is not sufficiently followed or explained, and there is an absence of those remarks on the art and the taste of the drama which make the school editions of Wecklein so admirable. The preface is well written and interesting. *Livy, Book XXI.*, with notes by Thomas Nash, M.A., is a most excellent piece of workmanship. The text is printed in clear and large type, while side-notes afford an abstract of the history and fix the attention of the learner. The notes are adequate in scholarship, and the history and antiquities are treated with fulness, interest, and completeness. Some of the general remarks on grammar and constructions are perhaps a little too obvious. The book concludes with a vocabulary of names of persons and places which is of the greatest service for easy reference. The *First Book of the Cyropaedia of Xenophon* is edited with the well-known skill of Mr. H. M. Wilkins. It contains an introduction and a running analysis. The notes are of a very business-like character, and are concerned either with the elucidation of the text or with grammatical questions. The scholarship of the notes is perfectly accurate and satisfactory, but we should have thought that it was hardly necessary to give so much assistance. Boys preparing for middle-class examinations might be expected to be able to parse of themselves such common words as *παραδίδωμι*, *ἰδὲν* or *ἴδον*. *Homer's Odyssey, Book II.*, with notes by the Rev. William Almack, appears to be a very hasty production, got up for the middle-class local examinations in 1875. The notes are meagre and unsatisfactory, and not always correct. The book seems to us such a one as could be knocked off in a few hours with the help of a Hayman and a Liddell and Scott. *St. Luke's Gospel* makes its appearance in White's "Grammar School Texts." It is well printed, and contains a very useful vocabulary. Sallust's *Catiline War* forms part of the same series, and is edited on the same plan. The practice of using special dictionaries or vocabularies is common enough in Germany, and is a useful plan to save boys from the bewilderment of looking through a maze of words in a large lexicon. *Aristophanes' The Acharnians*, with notes by Herbert Hailstone (Cambridge: E. Johnson), is a neat and scholar-like edition of the famous play. A full and elaborate argument takes the place of stage directions. The notes are short and concise, and good as far as they go; but we doubt whether sufficient help has been given in them, and whether the quotations and allusions in Latin

and Greek would always be intelligible to the young learner, or would fitly take the place of explanations in English. *The Modern Elocutionist*, by Comstock and Main, is a book which at first sight would be sure to raise a smile, but which is worth a more attentive consideration at the hands of schoolmasters than it is likely to receive. The culture of recitation is common enough in our public schools, but nothing can be more dreary or lifeless than the manner in which it is performed. The object seems to be not to rouse, or animate, or impress the audience, but to avoid the possible raising of a laugh. The tradition of oratorical delivery is kept up on the other side of the Atlantic, from which this book originally comes, and is also preserved in English Roman Catholic schools. We have seen in one of the latter a little boy of twelve years old nearly move an audience to tears by the pathos of his voice and gesture. In the volume before us very full and painstaking directions for delivery and action, given perhaps in a dry and pedantic way, are followed by extracts of a very varied character, some of which we have never heard delivered at a school. *Michod on Training* should, we suppose, certainly be reckoned nowadays as a school book, when gymnastics is asserting its old right to be placed on an equality with literary culture. A young athlete of our acquaintance assures us that it is the most sensible book he has read on the subject, and we are sure that it will do good if it tends to modify the false and exaggerated notions of training which now prevail among our schoolboys. It is a pity that with compulsory teaching of science, compulsory study of health is so neglected among us, and that the fierce race in athletic competition should, although begun in the pursuit of health and vigour, tend so often to life-long weakness or early death.

OSCAR BROWNING.

NOTES AND NEWS.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY is about to proceed to Edinburgh to undertake for the next three months the courses of lectures which Dr. Victor Carus has hitherto been giving, in the place of Professor Wyville Thompson, the Scientific Director of the *Challenger Expedition*. We regret to hear that the reason of this substitution is the failure of Dr. Carus' health.

M. MAXIME KOVALEVSKY, a Russian pupil of the distinguished Berlin publicist, Dr. Gneist, has come to England with the view of studying from our statutes and other sources the institution of justices of the peace. It is curious that we leave the study of the history of our domestic institutions so largely to foreigners; although, in default of British students, we ought to cherish a lively gratitude to such men as the Prussian Historian of the British Constitution, for sending forth scholars trained by himself to do our work for us.

MR. JAMES HINTON is meditating, we hear, a new philosophical work, which is to run in the same lines as Mr. Lewes' *Problems of Life and Mind*, and to form a kind of supplement to it.

CHIEF JUSTICE SIR EDWARD CREASY has in the press, to be published by Mr. Van Voorst, a new book entitled *First Platform of International Law*.

Cosmo de' Medici, an historical tragedy, by R. H. Horne, author of *Orion*, &c., is now going through the press. This new edition is remodelled throughout, and three new tragic scenes have been introduced. "Other Poems" will also be included in this volume, which will be published towards the end of next month.

UNDER the title of *The Royal Academy Album*, Messrs. L. Reeve and Co., in conjunction with the Fine Art Publishing Company, are preparing a volume to consist of a series of photographs of some of the most important works in the present exhibition of the Royal Academy of Arts. The

series will include specimens from Ansdell, Calderon, Elmore, Frith, Leslie, Marks, Orchardson, Pettie, Paynter, and many other well-known artists. It will be ready, it is hoped, about the end of May.

MR. HENRY SWEET has in preparation a short Anglo-Saxon Reader, with Grammar, Vocabulary and Notes, forming part of the Clarendon Press Series, and ranging with the "Specimens" of Dr. Morris and Mr. Skeat. The texts are so arranged as to give a clear view of the history both of the literature and the language, the prose extracts being selected as much as possible from original works, while those in verse represent all the principal varieties of the poetical literature. A considerable portion of the texts has been already printed, and the whole work will be ready for publication in the course of the present year.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD AND SONS have in preparation *Legends and Traditions of the Eskimo*, with an Appendix on their habits, religion, language, &c., consisting of a selection translated from the Danish of Dr. H. Rink, and revised and edited by Dr. Robert Brown. Dr. Rink, it may be added, has resided on, or been travelling about the shores of Davis Straits, from Cape Farewell up to 73° N., for sixteen winters and twenty-two summers, first as a scientific explorer, and afterwards as Royal Inspector or Superintendent of the Southern Danish establishments in Greenland. His work is founded partly upon the verbal narratives, partly upon manuscripts, of about fifty natives from all the principal parts of Greenland, and in the case of a few, from Labrador. In the English edition the materials of both sections of the original have been condensed and arranged under the direct superintendence of the author and according to his plan, with the object of omitting all that seems to be only of mere local interest in relation to the Danish settlement on the Greenland coast, and of adapting the selection more especially to readers engaged in archaeological and ethnological studies, as well as to those who may be interested in the truthful and vivid pictures of Arctic life portrayed in most of the tales. The book will be illustrated by woodcuts drawn and engraved by natives of Greenland, the original blocks having been acquired by the publishers of the English edition.

MESSRS. A. AND C. BLACK will very shortly publish the fifth edition of Professor J. H. Balfour's *Manual of Botany*. The second volume of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* is nearly ready.

AMONG Messrs. Chatto and Windus's announcements are: *Number Seventeen*, a new novel by Henry Kingsley; a collected edition of Dr. Westland Marston's Dramatic and Poetical Works; an exact reproduction in reduced facsimile by a photographic process of the first folio Shakspeare; and a new edition, with additional notes by John Hewitt, of Stothard's *Monumental Effigies of Great Britain*.

THE death is announced of Mr. Winwood Reade, author of *The Story of the Ashantee Campaign*, and of the Introduction to Dr. Rohlfs' *Adventures in Morocco*, both published last year.

A PARAGRAPH having appeared in last week's *Athenæum* giving an account of certain alleged discoveries of valuable historical documents at the India Office, Sir John Kaye, in a letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette* of the 27th ult., rectifies our contemporary's statement in some particulars, throwing doubt upon the supposition that the documents in question were "unknown to the officials of that department." Sir John Kaye concludes his letter by saying—

"I have always wished to see properly calendared (with copious extracts) the early memorials of the East India Company. The present Chancellor of the Exchequer, when Secretary of State for India, encouraged this undertaking, but it did not meet with any favour from the Council of India, so the scheme fell to the ground. In former days the Company kept

a historiographer, and Mr. Bruce, in that capacity, published in 1810 some bulky volumes, under the title of *Annals of the East India Company*; but no such functionary has existed for many years past, and I have not discovered that the early days of the East India Companies are regarded with much lingering interest by those who administer the affairs of her Majesty's Indian Government."

Sir John Kaye will, we are sure, be the first to rejoice that the work which he desiderates has long ago been taken in hand. The original correspondence and other documents in the custody of the India Office have been from time to time lent to the Master of the Rolls, and by his direction a full calendar, with extracts of important passages, has been prepared by Mr. Sainsbury. Two volumes bringing down the history to the year 1621 have long been printed, and one of these, if we are not mistaken, was already issued to the public at the date of Sir John Kaye's conference with Sir Stafford Northcote. One more volume, continuing the Calendar to the close of the reign of James I., is almost completed, and will shortly go to press. It may be added that some documents quoted in Bruce's *Annals* are now missing, and that whatever may be the truth about the present alleged discovery, it is within the limits of possibility that unknown papers of importance may still be brought to light.

A VERY rich collection of autograph letters and documents, formed by Dr. O'Callaghan, will be brought to the hammer at the close of this month. In it will be found a letter of Lucretia Borgia to her father-in-law, the Duke of Ferrara, dated Rome, November 27, 1501, relative to a quarrel she has with the nuns of Viterbo; no other autograph letter of hers is known to exist in any public or private collection in Europe. Signatures of her brother Caesar, and her son Cardinal Hippolyto d'Este, the patron and protector of Ariosto, are also here. Among other rarities is what is described as the oldest royal letter in Europe, perfectly preserved and hardly discoloured, that of John, King of France, who was led captive into England by Edward the Black Prince; it is dated from Windsor, November 26 (1356), and addressed to his son the Duke of Normandy; and letters of Rabelais and Rubens. Of more modern interest is a note from Charles Lamb to his friend P. G. Patmore, April 1831, containing a curious allusion to a well-known publisher of that day, "Nature never wrote KNAVE upon a face more legible than upon that fellow's: Coal-burn him in Beelzebub's deepest pit."

LIEUTENANT STUMM's book on the Khivan Expedition is to appear *chez* Messrs. Mittler, at Berlin, before Whitsuntide. An English translation will be published not many months later. The book excites a good deal of curiosity among military and geographical circles in Germany.

IN 1851, while Gawsworth Church, near Macclesfield, was undergoing repairs, the workmen found three very curious mural paintings. Copies of these were fortunately made by Mr. J. F. A. Lynch, and these Messrs. A. Heywood and Son, of Manchester, propose to issue in chromolithography, accompanied by the needful explanatory comments. The paintings represent St. George and the Dragon, St. Christopher, and the Last Judgment. This picture of Doom is specially interesting, showing action in heaven, earth, and hell.

LANCASHIRE is honourably distinguished by the number of Natural History societies existing in the county, members of which belong for the most part to the artisan classes. A recent number of the *Manchester Evening News* contains a pleasant notice of the annual meeting of a Botanical Association that has been at work for fifty years in that place. The members meet on the Sunday evening at a public house, bringing with them their floral prizes, and the meeting is occupied in conversation regarding them. Sometimes a more elaborate "paper" is laid before them. One of these—an unpretending, but interesting notice of a "Botanical Excursion on the Breaddalbane Mountains"—has just been

printed by Mr. Thomas Rogers, secretary of the association just named. Another testimony to the love of nature among the Manchesterians is afforded by the report of the Field Naturalist Society of that place, containing pleasantly written sketches of botanical excursions by the members last summer.

M. ROEST has just brought out a Catalogue, in two volumes, of the collection of Hebrew books made by the late L. Rosenthal in Hanover, and now in the possession of his son, a rich banker at Amsterdam. This collection is undoubtedly the richest after those of the Bodleian Library and the British Museum. M. Roest has followed the method of the British Museum Catalogue, drawn up by the late Mr. Zedner, confining himself to the titles, dates, and authors of the works, without entering into biographical details, or attacking biographers and bibliographers, as was unfortunately done by Dr. Steinschneider in his Catalogue of the printed books in the Bodleian Library. The second volume of M. Roest's Catalogue contains valuable biographical and bibliographical notes in Hebrew, made by the learned collector himself. We cannot omit to mention that M. George Rosenthal has published the Catalogue for the benefit of learning, without the wish of gaining profit from it. May this example be imitated by many others who possess important collections, of which, however, little or nothing is now known. We only require the publication of catalogues of Hebrew books, printed in Russia, Poland, the East and Leghorn, to be able, with those of Dr. Steinschneider, Zedner and Roest, to produce a complete list of Hebrew literature.

MESSRS. DENTU have published a little volume entitled *A travers la Diplomatie, 1864-1867*, by M. J. Hansen, a Dane, who was sent to Paris at the outbreak of the Schleswig-Holstein war to support the cause of Denmark in France. The work is of too purely political a character to be reviewed in these columns, but students of contemporary politics will find that it throws considerable light on French and Prussian diplomacy at the critical period of which it treats.

Trübner's Record announces that Dr. Franz Teufel, one of the Librarians of the Grand-Ducal Library at Carlsruhe, is preparing for publication a critical edition of Hwā'gā 'Abd'ul'hāh Hātifi's *Timūrnāmāh*, which will contain the Persian text, based on a collation of all the accessible MSS., the critical apparatus, and a complete glossary, and will be preceded by the life of the poet from the likewise still inedited Biographies of Contemporary Persian Poets by the Prince Sām Mirzā.

THE Comte de Paris has nearly completed the fourth volume of his *Histoire de la Guerre Civile des Etats-Unis*. It is, in the author's opinion, the most important portion of his work, dealing, as it does, with the turning-point of the war, the events that immediately followed Sherman's famous march. The volume will be published in the autumn. It has been stated that a translation of the Comte de Paris' work was about to be issued by a London firm. Negotiations were, it is true, entered into with a view to such an arrangement, but at the eleventh hour the French author announced that he would rather his history should be translated and published by Americans.

SOME of the simple sociable habits of Talfourd's and Bulwer Lytton's days still prevail in French literary circles. Thus last week there assembled in Victor Hugo's library some thirty of the leading writers and artists of Paris, and the poet declaimed a selection of the pieces that are to form the second instalment of the *Légende des Siècles*. This general title, it will be remembered, as M. Hugo announced many years ago, is to cover a trilogy, whereof "La Fin de Satan" is the *dénouement*, and "Dieu" the beginning. Both these poems are now ready for publication; therefore we

suppose the *Légende des Siècles* may be regarded as complete.

MISS DE LA RAMÉE has returned from Florence and brought with her a new novel nearly ready for publication. It is a story of Florentine life—a subject "Ouida" has had ample opportunities for studying.

ONE of the most colossal works the next generation will probably see is M. Thiers' *Memoirs*, which he is bringing down to the present time with wonderful activity. Sixteen has been mentioned as the number of volumes necessary to tell the story of the eminent statesman's life. M. Thiers is also engaged on a History of Art, of which we believe only the Italian portion is completed.

M. HETZEL publishes this week in Paris two curious volumes of the Correspondence of André Marie and Jean Jacques Ampère, the mathematician and the essayist and historian. The letters recel nearly all the famous Frenchmen of this century, from Chateaubriand, Lamartine and Balanche, to Thiers, Sainte-Beuve and Mérimée.

LÉO LESPÈS, who died last week almost a pauper at the charitable institution La Maison Dubois, was in literature about what Thérèse was in music; and his popularity was not at all unlike, in extent and quality, that of the brawny *diva* who "created" the *Femme à Barbe*. M. Léo Lespès created on his side the famous *Petit Journal*, the first newspaper sold in France for one sou. For many years Timothée Trimm was regarded as a model journalist—that is to say, a being closely resembling the embodiment of a familiar and superficial encyclopaedia. He rivalled M. de Girardin. If the founder of the *Liberté* had "one idea a day," M. Léo Lespès did more: he succeeded in writing one article a day without conceiving more than one idea a month. And very naturally the composition of those daily articles, treating of every subject, from postage stamps to hippophagy, during four or five consecutive years, was regarded as a veritable phenomenon in journalism. The journalist was paid like a phenomenon, and spent his money like a prodigal prince. The *Petit Journal* is now the most popular journal in France. Its circulation was 200,000 when M. Lespès left it. Timothée Trimm—whose real name was Napoléon Lespès—began life in 1832 as a conscript in a line regiment. He employed his leisure moments in writing humorous verses, which he signed "Fusilier," and when his term of service had expired he drifted quite naturally from the barrack-room into the offices of third-class newspapers. The title of his first work will give a good idea of the kind of literature M. Lespès admired; it was called *The Green Eyes of the Morgue!* He wrote afterwards *Les Mystères du Grand Opéra*, *Les Soirées Républicaines*, *Paris dans un Fauteuil*, *Les Quatre Coins de Paris*, *Les Filles de Barabas*, &c., which are nearly all collections of desultory *chroniques* and tales contributed to journals exclusively patronised by the corporations of concierges and cabmen. Since the war M. Lespès had fallen into complete obscurity; he was admitted into a free hospital about a fortnight ago, and died last week at the age of sixty-four. Some of M. Lespès' articles in the old *Figaro* show real talent of a delicate and lively kind.

ON April 17 the bones of the Emperor Lothaire, the son of Lewis the Pious (died A.D. 855), which have been for many years preserved in the sacristy of the parish church of Priühm, were deposited, together with the various documents attesting their genuineness, within the magnificent black marble sarcophagus prepared for their reception. Considerable interest was excited among the scientific men present by the colossal dimensions of the bones, the breadth and length of which fully confirmed the historical and traditionary report of the Emperor's exceptionally large stature. The monument, which rests on

three granite steps, is surmounted by a massive white marble cover, supported on black marble columns, and bearing in gold letters the original epitaph, composed by the scholar Hrabanus Maurus, who died as Archbishop of Mayence in 856. This "Epithaphium Hlotharii Imperatoria" is as follows:—

"Continet hic tumulus memorandi Caesaris ossa
Hlotharii Magni principis atque Pii,
Qui Francis, Italis, Romanis praeftuit ipsis,
Omnia sed sprexit, pauper et hinc abiit;
Nam bis tricenos monachus sic attigit annos,
Et se mutavit, ac bene post obiit.
III. Kl. Octobr."

To this is appended a record in German that "the monument has been renewed in 1874 under the rule of King Wilhelm of Prussia."

WE learn that the eminent German ethnologist, Professor A. Bastian, has been commissioned by the Imperial Government at Berlin to proceed to Central America with the view of examining on the spot several large collections serving to illustrate anthropological and ethnological enquiry, which have been offered for sale.

PROFESSOR KARL SIMROCK has completed a second and greatly enlarged edition of his modernised German version of Hartmann von Aue's *Der Arme Heinrich*, which he first brought within the reach of the reading public in 1830. Dr. Simrock has enriched this edition with a dissertation on the various compositions bearing on the myth of "Poor Henry," and all more or less closely connected with the subject of Leprosy and its cures.

THE *Allgemeine Zeitung* announces that Herr Hallberger, of Stuttgart, the editor of *Ueber Land und Meer*, intends to publish an English periodical in that city, to be entitled *Hallberger's Illustrated Magazine*, which will appear at intervals of three weeks, and is to be edited by F. Freiligrath.

THE German papers announce the death on April 17 of Dr. Hildebrand of Halle, who was well known in Germany as one of the best living exponents of the Old Icelandic, the "Norraena Tunga" of the Northmen. Dr. Hildebrand had been long engaged in preparing a new edition of the Eddas, and we regret to learn that this work, to which he intended to append numerous notes and glosses, has been left incomplete, and was only half printed at the time of his death.

MR. S. R. GARDINER writes to us that Mr. Furnivall is entirely mistaken in his statement that Mr. Irving, the late Classical Professor of the University of Melbourne, resigned his post in consequence of a sudden resolve of the Council "to give the whole staff notice that their posts are vacant, and that they must apply for re-election." Mr. Gardiner states, from personal knowledge, that Mr. Irving resigned simply because a position was offered to him which he preferred to that which he held at the University.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

MR. J. A. SKERTCHLEY, author of *Dahomey as It Is*, is about to proceed to Western Africa, accompanied by a civil engineer and one or two scientific gentlemen, with the intention of investigating the feasibility of creating an inland sea in the vast depression which lies to the south of the Empire of Morocco. That this project is not a wild one is apparent to those who have examined the desert of El Joof, as it is termed, and who bear positive testimony to the fact of the sea having receded from that part at a recent date. The project is a much more hopeful one than the French scheme of a like nature with regard to the *chotts* of Algeria, as in the more southern region there is an important trade to be done, while Timbuctoo, which would thus be on the verge of the new ocean, would be brought within fourteen days' sail of the British Isles. The only obstacle

to be cut through is a narrow belt of land opposite the Canary Isles, and to examine this will be one of the principal aims of the present expedition. Mr. Skertchley is an old African traveller, and his experiences during a journey made in the year 1868 deserve record. In the course of that year he explored the Gabun river, and crossing from thence to the Ogowai, ascended the last-named river and travelled for a considerable distance along the equator into the interior. About 14° E. longitude he crossed a large river about a mile in width, which flows due south. His furthest point was as near as possible 15° E.; and seven days' journey beyond that to the east he was told that there lay a large lake, the waves of which when agitated by wind were gigantic. This may or may not have any connexion with the lake reservoirs of the northern Lualaba, but it is extremely probable that the large river crossed is a northern feeder of the Congo, a tributary of which the existence has long been suspected. Mr. Skertchley also informs us that Arabs stated that they could pass up the river Ogowai, and from thence to the Congo by boat.

CAPTAIN ALLEN YOUNG proposes, in his approaching Arctic trip in the *Pandora*, to steam up Baffin's Bay, through Lancaster Sound, and down Prince Regent's Inlet; after which, should circumstances prove favourable, he will endeavour to make his way along the north coast of America as far as Behring's Straits, by way of the east coast of King William's Land, the scene of Sir John Franklin's disastrous end. Admiral Collinson, in 1851-2, found but little difficulty in making his way along the Arctic coast of North America, progress in shore being much facilitated by the action of large rivers which discharge themselves into the Frozen Sea. There is no doubt that, with the aid of steam, navigation under such circumstances would be greatly facilitated and expedited, and we sincerely hope that Captain Young may be enabled to achieve his project.

HERR WEYPRECHT, the leader of the Austro-Hungarian Polar Expedition, describes the auroral and magnetic phenomena of the region between Novaya Zemlya and Francis Joseph Land as very remarkable. He says, no pen or pencil can give any idea of the beauty of the northern lights at their greatest intensity. In February, 1874, the auroral discharge made a broad powerful stream of fire from west to east across the zenith, varied by continuous and intense swift-moving waves of rainbow-coloured light from one side of the horizon to the other. The lights also danced up from the southern horizon to the magnetic pole, making altogether the most splendid firework nature could display. He considers the region above mentioned to be one of maximum auroral manifestation. Three kinds of aurora were noticed: one a quiet regular arch, stretching upwards from the southern horizon over the zenith, and growing pale on the northern horizon. Another, consisting in more distant light bands continually changing their position and shape, and composed either of distinct rays, or different light; and lastly, the appearance of a corona, with rays streaming from, or towards, the magnetic pole. This is usually white with a slight tinge of green, and in cases of great intensity and motion, rays of prismatic colours, often very bright, shoot forth.

He detected the well-known green line by using a spectroscope; but his instrument was feeble, and the observations not to be compared with those of the Swedish expedition.

With regard to the supposed connexion between the northern lights and the weather, he found strong flaming exhibitions usually followed by storms. Magnetic disturbances were closely associated with the phenomena. He caused 3,000 readings of magnetic instruments to be made, and these have still to be reduced; the principal results are, however, as follows:—Magnetic storms are of extraordinary magnitude and frequency in that

region. They stand in the closest relation to the auroral discharges, and the disturbances are greater as the motions of the light streams become more lively, and the prismatic colours become more intense. Quiet regular arches, or ray motions, have scarcely any action upon the needle. In all disturbances the declination needle moved towards the east. Further details will be found in Petermann's *Geographische Mittheilungen* and *Der Naturforscher* for April 10, 1875.

THE French Geographical Society now numbers 1,400 members and 500 honorary members. At its last meeting gold medals were awarded to Abbé Armand David, for his travels in China and Mongolia, 1864-74; to Dr. Schweinfurth; and to the late Captain Hall, of the *Polaris*. Silver medals were awarded to l'abbé Emile Petitot, for his thirteen years' travels in North-West America; and to MM. Alfred Marche and Victor de Compiègne, jointly, for their travels in the Gabun country, 1872-4.

THE first spring boat from Iceland to Copenhagen brings news of a volcanic outbreak in that island for which the recent ash-storms in Norway had prepared the minds of men of science. It will be remembered that an eruption of the Vatnajökul took place in the winter of 1872-73, and that it was supposed to have taken place at a point on the northern side of that vast region. That outbreak was not of great importance, and since then Mr. Watts has made an attempt to reach the volcano from the south side of the Vatnajökul, but in vain. Towards the end of last December, a trembling of the earth began to be felt in the north and east of the island, accompanied by loud rumblings, and at last from Myvatnssveit, the nearest hamlet to the Vatnajökul, a great glare began to be seen in the south, which appeared, however, to be emitted by a different crater from that in activity in 1867 and 1872. This eruption is believed to have commenced a week before Christmas, and to have ceased towards the end of February; but about the same time as the first ceased, a new volcano burst out on a tableland lying east of Myvatn, and several days' journey from the Vatnajökul crater. In the village of Myvatn the eminent politician, Jón Sigurdson, lives, and, owing to his energetic efforts, the mild weather was used in exploring both volcanoes from that point. It was discovered that the first-mentioned volcano was not in the Vatnajökul at all, but in the Djungjufjeld, and that it is an entirely new crater. The only accurate information yet received is contained in two letters from Jón Sigurdson to *Nordanfar*, and one from an anonymous correspondent to *Isafold*. The latter announces that on February 16 the expedition reached the eastern edge of the Djungjufjeld. The explorers climbed a ridge from which they were able to look down upon the new volcano, which is on the south-east side of the mountain, and which is merely an opening on a flat table-land. It had formed no new lava around it, except just a lava-ring round the aperture of the crater, which appeared to be about 100 feet in diameter. About 180 feet west of the crater, a sinking of the terrain in shape of a horse-shoe had been formed. At the southern edge of this sinking was another little crater, which vomited even more rapidly than the first, though not so powerfully; from this a little stream of lava was flowing towards the south-west, side by side with a stream of pure water, which by and by left it, and, flowing between the rocks on the north-west side, formed a lake there. Ash-storms continue to fall all over the eastern part of the interior of the island, and it is feared that they may seriously injure the pasture-lands.

THE LATE PROFESSOR SELWYN.

ANOTHER severe loss has been sustained by the Cambridge Professoriate in the death of Canon Selwyn, the Lady Margaret's Reader in Theology.

William Selwyn, son of the late W. Selwyn, Q.C., of Richmond, Surrey, was born in 1806, and was the eldest of the three sons, his younger brothers being the present Bishop of Lichfield and the late Sir Jasper Selwyn, Lord Justice of Appeal. He entered at St. John's College, Cambridge, obtained the Chancellor's Classical medal in 1828, and in the same year graduated in both classical and mathematical honours, taking the high degree of Senior Classic and Sixth Wrangler, and ultimately proceeded to the D.D. in 1864. In April 1829 he was elected to the Fellowship at St. John's College just vacated by Sir John Herschel, and on resigning it upon his marriage, in 1833, was himself succeeded by his brother, the Bishop of Lichfield. He was ordained in 1829, instituted to the rectory of Branstone, Leicestershire, in 1831; and after passing through rapid and successive grades of ecclesiastical preferment, became Resident Canon of Ely in 1833, Lady Margaret's Reader in Theology at Cambridge in 1855, and was appointed Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen in 1859. These offices he held until his lamented death, which took place at his residence at Cambridge, on Saturday, the 24th ult., in the sixty-ninth year of his age. Professor Selwyn was not only admired for his brilliant scholarship and earnest devotion to his work, but beloved for his wit, his genial social qualities, and above all for his munificent and public-spirited liberality. When Ranke the historian visited Cambridge and dined in one of the College halls, he desired to have Professor Selwyn pointed out to him, and contemplated with divided admiration the noble and intellectual presence of the Lady Margaret's Reader, and the large stipend which he was told was attached to the professorial chair. "1,800l. a year," he said; "I should be glad to come to Cambridge for that." "But," asked his informant, "do you know that he gives 700l. a year of his income to a brother professor?" "You English are so droll," replied Ranke; "you must not ask me to believe that." It was true, nevertheless, for so long as the present Bishop of Winchester held the Norrisian professorship, Canon Selwyn voluntarily gave up 700l. per annum to the augmentation of his colleague's stipend; and when the latter resigned his post to become Bishop of Ely, he still set apart the same munificent sum to form an accumulative fund (now amounting to 10,000l.), to found a Divinity School at Cambridge. He was an energetic member of the Company for the revision of the Old Testament, where, as well as at Cambridge, his place will be hard to fill. His death, in the full possession of his great intellectual powers, and in the midst of his useful work—he was revising proofs the day before he died—is felt as a personal bereavement by his colleagues here, and as a national loss elsewhere. Among his works are:—*Principles of Cathedral Reform*; *Horæ Hebraicæ on Isaiah IX.*; *Two Charts of Prophecy*; *Notes on the Revision of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures*; *Notæ Criticæ in Versionem Septuagintaviralem* (Exodus, i.-xxiv., Numeri, 1857, Deuteronomium, 1858); *Conversations between an M.P. and a Canon on Ecclesiastical Legislation*; *Reasons for not signing the Oxford Declaration*; *Winfrid*; *Waterloo* (with Plans); *Errors of Commission*—all published by Messrs. Bell and Daldy; a critical edition of *Origen against Celsus*; and various other theological and classical works. E. H. PALMER.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE Account of the Income and Expenditure of the British Museum for the Financial Year ended March 31, 1875, has just been issued. It includes a statement of the progress made in the arrangement of the collections, and of the most important objects added to the Museum. Among the additions to the Department of Printed Books, Mr. W. B. Rye mentions:—

"Two very rare Shakespearian tracts, purchased at Sir William Tite's sale, viz. —
 "(1.) The Meeting of Gallants at an Ordinarie,

or the Walkes in Powles. London, 1604. This very curious work contains an allusion to Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*, and interesting references to the plague which raged in London during 1603. (2.) *Maroccus Extaticus*; or Bankes Bay Horse in a Trance. Printed for Cuthbert Burby, 1595; containing an account of the celebrated performing horse so frequently mentioned in the dramatic works of the seventeenth century, and alluded to by Shakespeare in *Love's Labour's Lost*. Both man and horse are said to have been burnt at Rome for witchcraft.

"A contemporary Latin account, hitherto unknown to bibliographers, of the meeting of Henry VIII. and Francis I. at the Field of the Cloth of Gold in June 1520. A French version exists in the Grenville Library.

"A copy of the Chorus Poetarum Classicorum: Lugduni, 1616, with the autograph and numerous Latin marginal notes in the handwriting of Ben Jonson.

"Many early English works of rarity have been purchased, including a copy of the extremely scarce first edition of Lydgate's translation of Boccaccio's *Fall of Princes*; printed by Pynson in 1494. This volume was rescued from a tobaccoist's shop at Lamberhurst; portions had been cut out to wrap up tobacco and snuff.—The rare edition of the English Bible in octavo, printed in 1612–13, the year after the publication of the authorised version in folio. It was unknown to Dr. Cotton, Lea Wilson, and to Lowndes. It is in beautiful condition, and in a binding of embroidered needlework.—Giles Fletcher's *Reward of the Faithful*; London, 1623. This rare prose work, by the author of *Christe's Victorie*, was recently described by Mr. Grosart from an imperfect copy which he believed to be unique. The author died in 1623, the year of the publication of the first folio edition of Shakespeare. He denounces 'idle pamphleters and loose poets, no better than the Priests of Venus, with the rabble of stage-players and balleters, and circumferaneous fiddlers and brokers, all which, if they were cleane taken out of the world, there would be little misse of them.' The preface contains a remarkable exculpatory allusion to Lord Bacon two years after his disgrace. The noble birth and gallant achievements of that remarkable outlaw Robin Hood, 1678. The only prose history of Robin Hood and the only copy known.—Barbour's *Actes and Life of Robert Bruce*; Edinburgh, 1620.—R. Greene's *Historie of Orlando Furioso*; C. Burby, 1599."

"A further selection of about 500 works from the linguistic library of M. Burgaud des Marets, comprising works in Basque, in the dialects of Italy, Spain, and Portugal, and in Wallachian. This purchase has made the Museum Library exceedingly rich in Basque books.

"A collection of Romaic works from the library of the late Charles Hopf.

"A considerable collection of journals, pamphlets, books, and caricatures illustrative of the recent revolution in Spain, 1870-4.

"The collection of Music has been augmented by the purchase of several hundred volumes, comprising the works of modern German, French, and Italian composers, many in full score. The works of Glinka, Titov, Varlamov, have been added to the Russian music. A great number of important treatises on the theory of the art have been acquired, and several valuable additions made to the class of early printed music."

The greatest curiosity added to Mr. R. H. Major's Department of Maps, &c., seems to be—

"An anonymous map of Germany and the surrounding countries, engraved on copper, but with the lettering printed from type, published at Eichstatt in Bavaria, in 1491. In a legend at the top, describing the contents, occur the words: 'Gratia sit Cuse Nicolao,' showing it to be the surviving representative of an earlier map, now unknown, made by Cardinal Nicolas Krebs (called Cusanus, from his native village of Cusa on the Moselle), who died in 1464. This earlier map is apparently referred to in the preface to the German translation of Michov's *Tractatus de duabus Sarmatiis*, entitled, *Tractat von baiden Sarmatien*, &c., Augsburg, 1618, 4to, in the following words:—'Wie wol der hochwirdig fürst und herr herr Nicolaus Cusa, der geleerten teutschen Kron, in ainem Mäpplin von disen landen vil anzeigt,' and has been treated of at length by Sebastian Münster in the 1st volume of the *Rerum Germanicarum Scriptores*

of Schardius, Basle, 1574. On the back of the map is a drawing of a coat of arms, headed by the name of the illustrious Willibald Pirckheimer, the Xenophon of Nuremberg; thus: 'Bilibaldus Pirckheimer MDXXIX.' From this it may be inferred that he had this identical map before him when he wrote his *Germaniae ex variis scriptoribus perbrevis explicatio*; published in Nuremberg, 1530, 8vo."

We have from time to time during the past twelve months noted in these columns the chief acquisitions made by Mr. Edward A. Bond to the Manuscript Department under his control, so there is no need for us to repeat them here. The Hatton Papers are undoubtedly the most important from an historical point of view. They are officially described thus:—

"Forty-nine volumes of Correspondence and Papers of Christopher, 1st Viscount Hatton, and Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham, Secretary of State in the reign of Queen Anne. The earlier portion comprises much that relates to affairs of the Isle of Guernsey, of which Lord Hatton was Governor, together with extensive family correspondence, and volumes of letters of Sir Charles Lyttelton, Dr. Fell, Bishop of Oxford, Dr. Edmund King, and others. The later portion principally consists of letters from ministers at foreign courts and other public officers, including Lord Treasurer Godolphin, Sir Joseph Williamson, Sir Paul and John Methuen, in Spain and Portugal, the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the Duke of Ormonde, Dr. Jeremy Taylor, and other persons of note."

Among new manuscripts in this department which we have not noticed are several volumes of Ledgers and Accounts of the Theatres Royal, Drury Lane, from 1772, and Covent Garden, from 1808; and about 1,500 original charters relating to the Carew family, of Beddington.

Among additions to the Oriental Manuscripts are:—

"The fourth and last volume of Ibn Khallikān's *Lives of Illustrious Men*, written by the author's own hand, circa A.D. 1257, Arabic; a most valuable addition to the first two volumes of Ibn Khallikān's autograph acquired by the Trustees in 1864.

"The second volume of the above work, dated A.H. 747 (A.D. 1346). Folio.

"The Canon of Avicenna in two volumes, the first of which is dated A.H. 733 (A.D. 1333). Arabic. Folio.

"A volume of the Commentary of Ibn Hajar on the Sahih, or authentic collection of Muhammad's Traditional Sayings, by Al-Bukhārī. Arabic. Folio.

"A copy of the Coran, carefully written on vellum in the thirteenth century. Quarto.

"Rabbi Saadiah's Commentaries on the Psalms Proverbs, Song of Solomon, &c. Hebrew; fourteenth century. Folio.

"Mukhtasar Murshid, a glossary of Talmudic words, by Rabbi Tankhum; Hebrew. Folio.

"Discourses on the Six Days of Creation, a Nestorian work by an unknown author; Syriac. Folio.

"Syriac fragments from the Syrian Convent of Nitria, some of which were found to belong to MSS. previously acquired by the Trustees. Presented by Professor William Wright.

"Atashkadah, or Notices on Persian Poets, by Lutf Ali Beg, with illuminated title-page. Folio, bound in painted covers.

"Matla'us-Sa'dain, a History of Timur and his successors in Iran. Persian. A.D. 1646. Folio.

"Khulasat ul-Akhbar, a manual of Oriental History, by Khwand Amir. Persian. A.D. 1511. Folio.

"Insab un-Nawāsib, a Shi'ah work by 'Ali Dā 'ūd of Astrabad, containing fierce attacks on the first three Khalifs and other enemies of Ali. Persian. Folio.

"Tazkirat ul-Umarā, or Lives of Indian Amirs, by Kewālrām. Persian. Folio.

"Bansawālī, a history of the Rajahs of Jypore. Persian. A.D. 1784. Folio.

"Journal of the Japanese Mission to Europe. Japanese. Six Parts. Folio.

"A Japanese Novel with miniatures. Quarto.

"(The above two MSS. were presented by Ernest Satow, Esq., Japanese Secretary to the British Legation in Japan.)

"A large Buddhist work written on palm leaves in the Pali language and Cambodian character.

Presented by Dr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul-General, Siam.

"Hindoo Mythological Drawings, collected and accompanied with an explanatory text, by the Rev. William Malkin."

We must defer till another occasion our notice of the acquisitions made by other Departments of the Museum.

LETTERS IN THE GÖTTA AND FULDA LIBRARIES.

St. John's College, Cambridge: April 20, 1875.

With your permission I desire to call attention to the collection of letters preserved in the Götha library, and in passing to look in at Fulda.

Ernst Ranke, in his edition of the gem of the Fulda library (*Codex Fuldensis*, Marburg and Leipzig, 1868, prolegomena xxxi.), acknowledges the help of the librarian:—

"Quum liber sacer qua est vetustate atque dignitate ultra arcus bibliothecae limites cum iis qui extra sunt non communicetur, inde ab anno praecedentis decennii quinto quater Fuldam adii ibique comiter exceptus si singulas vices computo duodecim hebdomades festis diebus vix exceptis transcribendo perscrutandoque codici vovi. Quo in studio fultus, neque in paucis ab Amando Keiz bibliothecae Fuldensis diligentissimo bibliothecario quem ad lares quoque reversus literis datis de singulis lectionibus consului, adiutus, etc."

I can confirm this testimony from my own experience. On March 23, when the soldiers (the troops regularly quartered there—not, as I have since read in an English journal, a guard specially sent to overawe the bishops "assembled at the grave of St. Boniface") were drilling in deep snow, I called, without introduction or other excuse than curiosity, on the librarian. He took me into the library, though it was closed during Holy Week, and showed me manuscripts and early printed books, in number and condition deserving to be more widely known than they are. The collection contains 40,000 volumes, all in original bindings. Many examples of *incunabula*, not registered by bibliographers, are there; also not a few early MSS. of the Latin fathers, worthy the notice of the editors of the Vienna *Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum*. The Palaeographical Society should also enter into correspondence with Mr. Keiz, who has made admirable catalogues, alphabetical and other, of the treasures under his care, and is eager to make them more widely known. The *Book of St. Boniface*, cleft by sword-cuts at top and bottom till the wounds nearly meet in the middle, the *Codex Fuldensis* of the sixth century, finely illuminated MSS. of various dates (even a *corpus iuris* among the number) deserve a facsimile.

The librarian of Götha, Dr. Pertsch, also opened his library to me on one of his few holidays, and offered again to open it on Easter Tuesday, but I had not the conscience to rob him of his rest. In the four or five hours that I could devote to the examination of the catalogue of letters, I noted the following entries which have an interest for Englishmen. The British Museum, a short time ago, sent one of its officers to Götha to take electrotypes of English coins and medals; it might be worth while to procure transcripts of all documents important for the history of our country and its literature, not only from Götha, but from all foreign libraries.

I register the letters as I took them down from the written catalogue, omitting the class-marks; I have inserted some papers by foreigners, if they were in any way connected with England.

From Alexander Alesius: (1) 1547, "dño G. Moro;" (2) Lips. s. a. "ad Jo. Agricola;" (3) s. l. et a. "ad Paulum Eber" [to whom, by the way, very many letters are addressed]; (4) Apulia (?) 1543 (? "ad Justum Menium"); (5) Wittembergae, 1539, "ad Fr. Myconium;" (6) s. l. et a. "ad Justum Menium."

From Chr. Arnold, s. l. 1648, "ad Jo. Fabricium."

From J. Arnold, Londres, 1716, to Leibnitz.

From Augustus, Elector of Saxony, to Queen Elizabeth [written by Pfeifer]: (1) Dresdae, 1574; (2) Annaburg, 1574; (3) *ibid.* 1578; (4) Dippoldiae, 1577; (5) *ibid.* 1577; (6) Dresdae, 1577; (7) *ibid.* 1581.

From Auguste Princess of Wales: (1) 20 letters (1748-70) to Frederick II. and III. of Saxe Coburg Gotha; (2) Leicester House, 1744, to E. S. Cyprian, the librarian of Gotha.

From Bacona vidua Domini Custodis, no place, date or recipient named.

From Bedford (?): (1) no place, year or recipient; (2) s. l. et a. "ad Bezam." [There are very many letters of Beza's in the collection].

From Edw. Bernard, s. l. 1690, to Job Ludolf.

From Theod. Beza, 8 id. Dec. 1581, to Cambridge University, and one from the University to Beza of the same year.

From Jean Bernoulli: (1) Groningiae, 1703, to Falkoner; (2) 1707-12 to Edmund Halley; (3) Basil, 1719-23 to Is. Newton; (4) *ibid.* 1713-29 to Woolhouse. [There is a great mass of papers of the Bernoulli family].

From John Bird, London, 1768-70 to Sulzer.

From Bothmer, Londres, 1716, to Leibnitz.

From Isaak Hawkins Brown, 1776-7, to J. Bernoulli.

From the Comte et Comtesse de Bruce, Petersb., 1778, to J. Bernoulli.

From David Stewart Comte de Buchan, Dryburgh Abbey, 1787-94, to J. Bernoulli.

From Is. Casaubonus, Lutet. Par. 1602, "ad pastores et synodum Gargoviae congregatos."

From Jo. Castellus, Lond. 1599, "ad Zastriel."

From Geo. Cheynaecus, Lond. 1703-5, three letters to J. Bernoulli.

From Clarke [no place, date or recipient].

From Tim. Clarke, Londini, 1668, to Dr. Fabricius in Danzig.

From Geo. Clifford, Amst. 1738-43, to J. P. Breyn. [There is a vast mass of letters addressed to Breyn, e.g., by James Petiver, Wm. Sherard, Hans Sloane, J. Woodward.]

From John Collier, Lond. 1770, to J. Bernoulli.

From P. Collinson, Lond. 1744-8, to Breyn.

From Alanus Copus: (1) Lovanii 1563 [2 letters] "ad Hosium;" (2) *ibid.* 1568, to the same. [Valuable additions to the scanty materials for a history of English Romanists. Under "The. episc. Asaphus" there lurks a letter from Thomas Goldwell, ex-Bp. of St. Asaph, to the same Card. Hosius].

From Guillaume Coxe, Cambridge, 1782, to J. Bernoulli.

From Jean Craig, Sellingham, 1709, to —.

From Cramer, Londres, 1727, to J. Bernoulli.

From Tilem. Cragius (? whether a Scotchman), "in exilio ex vico Borgtorff prope Cellam, 1562, ad P. Eberum."

From E. S. Cyprian, Gotha, 1744, "ad episcopum Cumberlandiae" (*sic* Qu.).

From F. Dale, Braintree 17-3 (third figure doubtful), to Breyn.

From J. J. Dillenius: (1) Lond. 1729; (2) *ibid.* 1732, to Breyn.

From Qu. Elizabeth: (1) Greenwich, 1592, "ad Ludovicum D. Wirtemberg;" (2) *ibid.* 1592, "ad Fri. Wilh. elector. Sax. administr.;" (3 and 4) Windsor, 1577, "ad Frid. reg. Dan.;" (5) s. l. et a. (1576), "ad Landgravium de formula concordiae scr. a Roberto Belo;" (6) Vuindsoriae, 1579, to "Fred. v. Dänem."

From James Empson, Chelsea, 1743 and 1745, to Breyn.

MS. Goth. chart. A. 282, p. 291, "Jo. Duraci dissertatio irenica." [If this peace-maker has any friends, they may note that I possess some MSS. pieces of his, and have considerable collections relating to him.]

MS. Goth. chart. A. 515 f. 148, "nomine reginae Angliae acta cum electore Saxoniae in conventu Salensis procurante Landgrauio 1578 kal. Apr."

MS. Goth. chart. B. 19 f. 11^b, "epistola ad Eduardum regem Angliae 1548."

Early in the eighteenth century an attempt was made to unite the Lutheran and Anglican Churches (see Abp. John Sharp's Life; C. F. W. Walch, *Neueste Religionsgeschichte*, Lemgo, 1772, ii. 191-214; Hase, *Kirchengeschichte*, § 390, note k; and catalogues under "Edzardus," "Jablonski," especially in the Cambridge Library; "Puffendorf;" Nichols, *Lit. Anecd.* viii. 250). Among Cyprian's MSS. n. 294, pp. 93-138, contains a translation of one of the tracts published on the occasion: "*Die Historie der Lutherischen Kirche, oder die Religion unsers gegenwärtigen Souverain König Georgens den Lehrsätzen der Engelländischen Kirche in allen gleichstimmig, zu einem Versuch alle guten Christen wieder [sic] die Lehre der Röm. Kirche, Joh. Calvin und Theodori Bezae zu vereinigen, entworfen von einem Mitglied des Magdalener Collegii zu Oxford.* London: gedruckt und zu verkaufen bey Joh. Morphew, nahe an Stationers-Hall, 1714."

As an instance of the friendly intercourse between English and German churches, I transcribed the following letter from Wm. Cave to Cyprian:—

MS. GOTH. 422, p. 18, *holograph*.

"Cl. V. Ernesto Sal. Cypriano

Wilhelmus Cave S. D.

in fonte salutis.

"Pridie Nonas Julius redditae sunt mihi literae tuae (Vir Cl. D^o Professor plurimum honorande) sane suavissimae, eximij candoris et humanitatis testes satis ludenti. Gaudeo me a tali viro tanti aestimari, etsi immo dicam, quas mihi tuis, laudes nullas agnosco, affectui tuo, non meritis meis ascribendas. Fateor me in literis, praecipue Ecclesiasticis, excolendis maximam aetatis meae partem trivisse. Progressus vero quem etiam in his fecerim, sentio quam sit exiguus, meoque me metiri pede dudum didici. Interim egregiam tuam humanitatem amplector et exosculor. Quod novam Hieronymi de scriptoribus editionem mediteris, facis quod te dignum est, quod nomini tuo gloriosum, quod reipubl. literariae gratum, vtile ac fructuosum erit. Non dubito quin notas vberiores et supplementum sis additurus. Suaderem vt vbi Eusebium exscripsit Hieronymus (quod semper fere solet) Graeca e regione collocetur; quod et vsui et ornamento erit. Et miror tot eruditos editores hactenus neglexisse. De varijs lectionibus conquirendis, iam non vacat, quippe ad Acidulas Tunbrigenses intra diem vnum aut alterum sanitatis causa profecturus sum. Vbi rediero, video quid per amicos praestare possim. Nemo interim hoc felicius accuratiusque praestare quam Dn. Grabijs, qui omnes Bibliothecarum nostrarum forulos occasione Spicilegij sui diligenter excusserit. Puto me vix quidquam notitia tua dignum penes me habere, quod vel in Historiam Literariam, vel in Vitas SS. Patrum IV. primorum seculorum Anglico sermone a me dudum scriptas, non transcriberim. A libris iam longe remotus sum; cum Windesorem rediero (quod non nisi post tres quatuorve menses fiet) schedas excutiam, et siquid repperim, libenter tecum communicabo. Interim bonis avibus procedat institutum tuum. Mirifice me delectat quod narras de nova Centuriarum Magdeburgensium editione adornanda, emendanda, continuanda, quam Cl. Schmidius tuque in vos recepistis. Gaudeo in tam felices, tam accuratas manus incidisse; cum certus sim, nihil nisi lene, moderatum, accuratum, eruditum ex Academia Helmstadiensis prodire solere. Ego opus istud semper admiratus sum, de quo quid sentiam in Praefat. Part. 2^{ae} Hist. Liter. alibi satis aperui. Lepidum est quod habes de Kochio Kiloniensi, ignoto mihi capite. Merum est vigilantis somnium. Quid facit hic tanto dignum promissor hiatu? Certe helleboro purgandus est, vel ad Anticyras demum relegandus, risu, contemptu, non refutatione dignus. Orbilius (vt recte vocas) Amstelodamensis, vides quam solita humanitate me, vt et alios plures me longe maiores, tractaverit. Det illi Deus saniorum mentem. Respondi paucis, spero tamen satis ad rem. Commodum prodit libellus, dum haec scribo. Exemplar vna cum his literis ad te destinavi, inuentis inter nos amicitiae tesseram, vt rectius de hac lite indicare praesit. Responsum tuum ad Liberij Epistolas nondum vidi, vt Helmstadiensis vestra raro ad nos pervenit. Doleo tot et tam

illustres in republ. literaria viros feto nuper ereptos esse. Resarciat eorum iacturam communis Pater, augeatque illorum numerum, qui meliores literas cum pietate promovent. Saluta meo nomine et Collegam tuum Dn. Schmidium, et Albertum Foldium. Benedicat studiis vestris *ò èw! nàoi*, et in nominis sui gloriam, et Ecclesiae aedificationem cedant. Vale, vir doctissime, et quod coepisti, me amare pergas, certas me nihil, quod in me erit, tibi denegaturum. Isleworthae x^o ab vrbe lapide vii^o Idus Julius. A^o MDCC.

"Viro Clarissimo ornatissimoque
D.D. Ernesto Sal. Cypriano
in Academia Helmstadiensis
Prof. P.

"Helmstadium
vna cum libello."

JOHN E. B. MAYOR.

SELECTED BOOKS.

General Literature and Art.

- BARANTE, M. le baron de. Notes sur la Russie, 1835-1840. Paris: Lévy.
FORBES, L. Two Years in Fiji. Longmans.
HEATH, F. G. The Fern Paradise: a Plea for the Culture of Ferns. Hodder & Stoughton. 6s.
MARESCAL, M. A. A. Iconographie de la Faïence. Paris: Baur. 10fr.
SCOTT, W. B. Poems. Longmans. 15s.
VALBESSEN, M. de. Les Anglais et l'Inde: Nouvelles études. Paris: Plon. 15fr.
WARDROP'S JOURNEY across Australia. Edited by C. H. Eden and H. W. Bates. Low & Co. 16s.

History.

- CODEX diplomaticus Cavensis. Tom. II. Milano: Hoepli.
LANFREY, P. Histoire de Napoléon 1^{er}. 5^e Volume. Paris: Charpentier.
REGESTA diplomatica nec non epistolaria Bohemiae et Moraviae. Pars II. annorum 1253-1310. Opera J. Emler. Vol. 7. Prag: Grégr & Dattel.

Physical Science and Philosophy.

- FLIGIER. Beiträge zur Ethnographie Kleinasien u. der Balkanhalbinsel. Breslau: Friedrich. 1 M.
KÖCH, L. Die Arachniden Australiens nach der Natur beschrieben u. abgebildet. 13. Lfg. Nürnberg: Bauer & Raspe. 9 M.
KÖRNEL, P. Instinkt u. freier Wille. Beiträge zur Thier- u. Menschenpsychologie. Leipzig: Scholtze. 5 M.
MORTIER, B. C. dn. Hepaticae Europae. Bruxelles: Muquardt.
TAILLANDIER, Saint René. Scot Erigène et la Philosophie Scholastique. Paris: Pichon. 6fr.

Philology.

- BURNELL, A. C. Elements of South-Indian Palaeography from the Fourth to the Seventeenth Century, A.D. Trübner.
HALÉVY, J. Etudes sabéennes. Paris: Maisonneuve. 15fr.
HARTL, W. Homerische Studien. III. Wien: Gerolds Sohn. 1 M. 20 Pf.
KÜHN, E. W. A. Beiträge zur Pal-Grmmatik. Berlin: Dümmler. 4 M.
MILCHER, P. Die christliche Terminologie der slavischen Sprachen. Wien: Gerolds Sohn. 3 M.
VINSON, J. Notes sur la dérivation du verbe basque. Paris: Maisonneuve. 2fr.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BHARHUT SCULPTURES.

38 Clarendon Gardens: April 27, 1875.

Louis de Zozya Mudliar has supplied me with two additional corrections, one of some importance, the other involving an interesting point of exegesis. First, the inscription read by General Cunningham as Sudhamma Reva Sabha, should be read *Sudhammā devasabbā*. The emendation admits of no dispute, because, according to the Buddhist texts, the *devasabbā*, or council hall of the Trāyastriṃsa angels, is named Sudhammā. Thus vanishes the theory of the inscription containing the name of the patriarch Revata, who presided over the second General Council of Buddhism. Secondly, the curious expression *kotisanthārena* does not mean "for a layer of ten millions," but "by laying edge to edge." It is well known to Sanskrit scholars that *koṭi* has the two very different meanings of "edge" and "ten millions," and it is in the former sense that the word is here used. The original and oldest extant version of the story of Jetavana is to be found in the Chūla Vagga of the Vinaya, a portion of the Buddhist canon; and in his great commentary on the Vinaya, Buddhaghosa explains *kotisanthārena* by *koṭim koṭim paṭipādetvā*, "putting edge to edge," by which is meant that the coins were so close together that their edges

touched. Of course this correction does not in the slightest degree impair the value of the discovery. It is interesting as removing a certain tautology from the passage as I at first translated it, and adding a new force to the expression, and also as illustrating the extreme importance of Buddhaghosa's commentaries, without which we should too often be driven into hopeless conjecture in dealing with the oldest Buddhist texts.

R. C. CHILDERS.

BARNABE BARNES: SHAKSPEARE, SIDNEY, ETC.

Park View, Blackburn, Lancashire: April 24, 1875.

By the kindness of his Grace the Duke of Devonshire I have had leisurely opportunity of studying critically the *Parthenophil* and *Parthenophe. Sonnettes, Madrigals, Elegies, and Odes* (1593) of Barnabe Barnes. With every inevitable abatement I find this unknown book to be intrinsically matterful in many deep directions, and sometimes daintily wrought. I find it, too, of absolute value in helping to a wider and more penetrative study of our English sonnet-literature generally, and of the greatest of all sonnets, those of Shakspeare, in particular, than has yet been given. (Witness the complacent ignorance of even so true a man and book as Mr. Minto in his *Characteristics*, as he shallowly and narrowly skims the surface of so rich a thing as "The Elizabethan Sonneteers.") It were easy to adduce proofs by the score of my twofold statement. Besides, there are apparently wholly unrecorded celebrations in it of Sidney and Stella, and other glories of our land and literature, and not a few noticeable unregistered words, phrases, &c. &c. Extrinsically there is the simple matter of fact that except the Chatsworth copy no other is known.

Parthenophil and *Parthenophe* is a goodly quarto, extending to about 160 somewhat closely-printed pages; and thus its reproduction worthily in such a very restricted impression as alone seems called for (for it is not a book for boys and girls), involves considerable cost. I invite twenty-nine to join me in the expenditure in furnishing thirty copies (stringently limited thereto); it being understood that the reproduction shall be in a handsome quarto, page for page, and letter for letter of the original, as in those of the Spenser Society, &c. By the estimate furnished I feel free to fix the price for each of us at 2l. 2s., and the carriage—the names to be entered strictly as they reach me, and each copy to be numbered and signed.

That *Parthenophil* and *Parthenophe* ought to be rescued from the risks of a solitary exemplar, few students of our early literature will gainsay; while, as above, on the merits, Barnabe Barnes is a genuine singer. There are in all 111 sonnets, twenty-six madrigals, and many (so-called) elegies, odes, sestines, &c., &c.

ALEXANDER B. GROSART.

THE WELSH WORDS "CYLYN" AND "DYNES."

Rhyl: April 24, 1875.

I am sorry to find myself of the number of those who break on Mr. Skeat's peace, but as to his suggestion with respect to Mr. Garnett's list I will try to carry it out as soon as the pressure of other work will permit. Were an outsider entitled to have an opinion at all in the matter, one might say that the words mentioned by Mr. Skeat in his last letter, namely, the Anglo-Saxon gloss *cylyne* on the Latin *culina*, and the Icelandic *kylna* look very much as if borrowed from the Latin; *kyln* and *kell* would follow suit. The Latin *culina*, of which Festus says—I am quoting from Andrews' *Latin Dictionary*—"Culina vocatur locus, in quo epulae in funere comburuntur," became later *culna*, which I find "pro culina" in the Halle edition (1773) of Ducange; Diefenbach has also *culnia*. Even supposing the Latin origin of the Teutonic forms admitted, we should, I think, have to regard the Welsh ones as borrowed

from English: they could not be phonologically deduced from the Latin, and I am still persuaded that they are not of Welsh origin. Nor does the valuable information contained in Mr. Silvan Evans's letter seem to me to make against this; for I gather that the word *cylyn* or *clyn* belongs to North Cardiganshire, Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire; at any rate I have not yet found that it is usual in the other counties of North Wales. *Cyl* also seems to me to be a borrowed form; his written authority for it takes us back to a time when Welsh writers borrowed English words more freely than is now the case.

Nothing could have been further from my intention than to suggest that all those Welsh words which do not happen to occur in books are not of Welsh origin; but the instance *dynes*, "woman," certainly makes for my view rather than otherwise. For I cannot help thinking that this word was not manufactured many centuries before its first appearance in print. In some parts of Wales *dynes* could hardly be used in speaking to a woman to whom one wished to be respectful; whence it may be presumed to be a slang word of no very long standing. Moreover, the poets of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries freely used *dyn* in the feminine, especially in speaking of the ladies they loved: how late this continued I cannot now say. It is, however, highly improbable that, so long as *dyn* was so used, another feminine should be based upon it as though one formed a feminine from the Latin *homo* or the Greek *ἀνθρωπος*. It is worthy of note that the Old Cornish *den* also occurs in the feminine in *Beunans Meriasek*, verse 1006. Perhaps further enquiry would convince one that the word was once exclusively feminine in the Kimric languages.

One conclusion which the readers of the ACADEMY will not fail to draw from the above is that we are greatly in need of a Dialect Society in Wales: it would be easy to find plenty of work for it.

J. RHYS.

The EDITOR will be glad if the Secretaries of Institutions, and other persons concerned, will lend their aid in making this Calendar as complete as possible.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

SATURDAY, May 1,	1 p.m.	Sale at Christie's of the Bredel Collection.
	2 p.m.	Royal Institution: Annual Meeting.
	3 p.m.	Opening of Alexandra Palace: Grand Concert.
MONDAY, May 3,	2 p.m.	Royal Institution: General Monthly Meeting.
	5 p.m.	Musical Association: Mr. R. H. M. Bosanquet on "Temperament; or, the Division of the Octave." II.
	7 p.m.	Entomological.
	8 p.m.	British Architects: Anniversary. Medical.
TUESDAY, May 4,	1 p.m.	Sale at Christie's of the Collection of Porcelain of James Sanders, Esq.
	3 p.m.	Royal Institution: Professor Gladstone on "Chemical Force."
	7 p.m.	Sculptors of England.
	8 p.m.	Civil Engineers. Pathological.
	8.30 p.m.	Zoological: Papers by Mr. H. C. Sorby, Professor A. H. Garrod, and Mr. G. E. Dobson.
WEDNESDAY, May 5,	"	Biblical Archaeology: Mr. H. Fox Talbot, "A Commentary with Notes on the Deluge Tablet;" Mr. W. Bosanquet on "An Historical Inscription of the Tenth Expedition of Esarhaddon;" Rev. A. Löwy on "An Unique Specimen of the Modern Syriac, or Targum Dialect, of the Jews in Kurdistan."
	8 p.m.	Microscopical: Mr. H. J. Slack on "The Relations of Angular Aperture to Surface Markings and Accurate Vision."
	8 p.m.	Royal Institution: Professor Seeley on "The Fossil Forms of Flying Animals."
THURSDAY, May 6,	5 p.m.	Zoological Society (Davis Lecture): Professor A. H. Garrod on "Deer and their Allies."
	7 p.m.	London Institution: Dr. Freeman on "The History and Use of the English Language." VI.

THURSDAY, May 6,	8 p.m.	Chemical: Papers by Professor N. Storey Maskelyne, Dr. Flight, Mr. W. Ramsay, and Mr. J. Williams.
	"	Linnean. Inventors' Institute.
FRIDAY, May 7,	4 p.m.	Archaeological Institute.
	8 p.m.	Philological: Mr. H. Nicol on "French Sounds in English." II.
	"	Geologists' Association.
	9 p.m.	Royal Institution: Professor Cornu on "The Velocity of Light."

SCIENCE.

Life of Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Bart., etc., based on his Journals and Letters; with Notices of his Scientific Contemporaries, and a Sketch of the Rise and Growth of Palaeozoic Geology in Britain. By Archibald Geikie, LL.D., F.R.S., etc. (London: John Murray, 1875.)

It rarely happens that the life of a man of science is sufficiently rich in incident to be handled with effect by the biographer. Beyond a small circle of readers, it is hard to gain sympathy with a man's life by simply setting forth his work, quietly accomplished in the study and the laboratory, in the classroom and the cabinet, or even in the campaigns of a field-naturalist. But it was otherwise with the life of Sir Roderick Murchison. While occupying for years a prominent position as a man of science, he never ceased to be a thorough man of the world. He threw himself with energy, it is true, into his scientific labours, but he still left to himself a fair margin of time and strength for the cultivation of that intercourse with men of high social rank, which he so keenly relished. Nor did he deem the one occupation much less important than the other. If he enters in his diary the details of a geological section observed in the morning, he records with equal fidelity his recollections of the ball at which he figured in the evening. The record of this twofold life naturally gives to his memoirs more than scientific interest. The reader may not care a straw whether the boundary between the Cambrian and Silurian rocks should be drawn at this horizon or at that; but he may yet be tempted to dip into these volumes to see Murchison joining in a homely game at Lord Derby's, or to hear his personal recollections of the Emperor of Russia.

As Sir Roderick approached the evening of his life, he occupied his leisure hours with the revision of his early journals. Some men with such materials in hand would have written an autobiography; but he, with more sagacity and less literary tact, placed the journals in the hands of an experienced friend. To Professor Geikie he confided the trust of arranging these materials, and of evolving a connected narrative out of this voluminous but rather incoherent mass. The execution of the task shows that it could hardly have been entrusted to fitter hands. As an experienced geologist he has been able to trace with clearness Murchison's scientific career, to set forth the work which he accomplished, and to estimate his true position among his brethren of the hammer. As an intimate friend of Murchison, enjoying for years his closest confidence, the biographer had ample opportunity of studying his character, and he has analysed it, we believe, with equal judgment and fidelity; for while naturally turning the noble side

of Murchison well to the front, he has shown himself far above the servility of hero-worship. Finally, Professor Geikie, with his well-known facility of graceful writing has thrown the details of the biography into a charming narrative, though broken here and there by digressions on the history of the science and sketches of its foremost cultivators.

Singularly little of the future man peeps out through the early life of Murchison. For more than thirty years he was content to live without even a passing regard for that science which he afterwards loved so well and served so faithfully. The pleasures of his early life were physical rather than intellectual, and when intellectual were artistic rather than scientific. It is scarcely possible to discern the potential geologist in the wild schoolboy, leading his fellows in their mischievous pranks at Durham; or in the smart young officer, athirst for military fame in the Peninsula; or yet in the Laird of Tarradale, full of ancestral pride; or in the bold fox-hunter, with his stud at Melton Mowbray; or even in the fashionable traveller, dabbling in art and archaeology at Rome. And yet this desultory life was probably not without effect in giving shape to Murchison's future course. Indeed there can be little doubt that many of the characteristics of his scientific work may be attributed to the advantages and disadvantages of his early career.

Murchison's conversion—his complete turning round from a useless to a useful life—came to pass when he was rather more than thirty years of age. At that period we come upon a complete break in the succession of events—a kind of “unconformity” in his life—the sportsman passing into the student of science by abrupt transition rather than by gradual development. How so curious a change was effected may best be told by citing a passage from Murchison's own writings—a passage which incidentally shows how smooth an entrance in those days led into the Royal Society:—

“As time rolled on I got *blasé* and tired of all fox-hunting life. In the summer following the hunting season of 1822–3, when revisiting my old friend Morrill, of Rokeby, I fell in with Sir Humphry Davy, and experienced much gratification in his lively illustration of great physical truths. As we shot partridges together in the morning, I perceived that a man might pursue philosophy without abandoning field-sports; and Davy, seeing that I had already made observations on the Alps and Apennines, independently of my antiquarian rambles, encouraged me to come to London and set to at science by attending lectures on chemistry, &c. As my wife naturally backed up this advice, and Sir Humphry said he would soon get me into the Royal Society, I was fairly and easily booked.”

Booked in this simple way, we soon find him selling off his hunters, and coming to London, in order that he might profit by the chemical lectures in Albemarle Street. It was not long, however, before he found that chemistry was not to be his forte. The enthusiastic fox-hunter could ill brook the confinement of the laboratory, and he cast around him for other fields of scientific activity. Fortunately his eye rested on the young and rising science of geology—a science which needing much observation in the field,

would offer an easy outlet for his physical activity, and came nearest to his old field-sports in the opportunity it afforded for open-air exercise. Entering the Geological Society, he soon made the acquaintance of many men of scientific mark. On the invitation of Dr. Buckland he visited Oxford, where he had the opportunity, not only of hearing the lectures of the brilliant and witty professor, but also of joining in one of his field-excursions. This excursion determined Murchison's career. Fired with the zeal of the Oxford professor, he determined to observe for himself, and buckling on his geological hammer for the first time, he started on a tour along the south coast, accompanied by his amiable and accomplished wife. From this time forth he threw himself into his new science with the same ardour which had been displayed in his field-sports; and each season he started on some fresh campaign which would furnish him with materials for his winter's work. The record of these geological journeys at home and abroad naturally forms the bulk of Murchison's memoirs.

Several years were spent in geological work of a rather desultory character, examining now one formation and now another, and thus gaining considerable experience, but without settling down to the study of any special group. This geological unrest was checked when he first turned his attention to those old and disturbed stratified rocks of Wales which in those days were vaguely known as “*granwacke*,” or as the “*transition series*.” Again and again he visited these old rocks, and by the year 1835 he had so far determined their relations that he ventured to distinguish them by a special name, and forthwith christened them with that happily-chosen term—“*Silurian*.” Murchison's contributions to our knowledge of other formations were neither few nor small, but they all yield to his Silurian work. To unravel the details of that complicated system he was well pleased to travel any distance, and it was for this purpose that he undertook his celebrated journeys to Russia.

It was, too, in seeking to determine the base-line of his Silurian system that Murchison was led into the unhappy controversy with Professor Sedgwick—a man whom he so long venerated as his guide and teacher, and in whom he found for so many years a faithful and generous friend. This controversy forms a most painful episode in the narrative, but is too complicated to be entered into here. The younger geologists have now an opportunity of acquainting themselves with both sides of the dispute by studying these memoirs in connexion with the affecting explanation written by the venerable Professor when tottering on the brink of the grave, and published as the Introduction to the Catalogue of Palaeozoic Fossils in the Woodwardian Museum at Cambridge.

Viewing the life of Murchison through the medium of these memoirs, it needs but little penetration to discern the main elements of his success. As a geologist his strength undoubtedly lay in his power of quick observation in the field. Few men had a better “eye for country” than the old fox-hunter; nay, few could catch the salient features in

the structure of a country with equal facility. It was this readiness of perception, coupled with remarkable perseverance, that enabled him to accomplish so much field-work. Thus, after a few rapid traverses across Russia, he boldly sketched the general features of the geology of that empire. In this power of rapidly executing work he was greatly aided by the physical strength which his healthy mode of life had tended to develop. Murchison was rarely dyspeptic, a fact which ought to count for something as an element of success in any career; and he was a famous pedestrian, which counts for a good deal with a field geologist. But when he had sagaciously observed his facts in the field, and methodically recorded them in his papers, he left their generalisation to others. If he was a keen observer, he was a loose reasoner. This deficiency of logical power unfortunately led him at times to attack an opponent by weight of authority rather than by force of argument. Indeed, opposition to his own views, especially by the younger geologists, at once brought to the surface the weaker side of his nature. He could scarcely tolerate any modification of opinions which he had once formed; and he looked with jealousy at the slightest trespass on ground which he regarded as his own. In fact, in science, as in politics, he was a staunch Conservative of old-fashioned type. Yet his conservatism sometimes took a pleasing shape. Just as he clung tenaciously to opinions which he had formed, so he stood with fidelity to any cause with which he had once identified himself. All the world knows, for example, how bravely he espoused the cause of poor Livingstone. Without denying that there were many weak points in Murchison's character, it must be admitted that, on the whole, his life was nobly spent; and its lesson shows what may be accomplished by a man of wealth and position, with ordinary talents. Without a brilliant or philosophic mind, Murchison, by dint of sheer industry, used his powers of observation to such good purpose that he has left his mark deeply graven on the foundation-stones of geology. Whatever revolutions may be effected in the science, the name of Murchison must assuredly remain associated with that of Siluria. F. W. RUDLER.

Sutta Nipāta; or, Dialogues and Discourses of Gotama Buddha. Translated from the Pāli, with Introduction and Notes, by Sir M. Coomāra Swāmy. (London: Trübner & Co., 1874.)

It is to be regretted that Buddhism is chiefly known in Europe only through its later developments, and, as it were, at second hand. Even an impartial and accurate observer would probably fail to understand Christianity if it were only known to him from the modern books and practices of different Christian countries; and valuable as are the labours of those scholars who have written on the beliefs now current in Nepal, Tibet, and China, in Burma, Siam, and Ceylon, they must remain comparatively unfruitful until the more ancient Buddhist books in Sanskrit and Pāli have been published and explored.

The Pāli version of the Buddhist Tripi-

taka or Bible, occupies, when written in the Sinhalese character, 4,750 palm leaves, each about two feet long, and, if printed in English type of the size used in this article, would occupy about thirteen volumes octavo of 1,000 pages each: less than 100 pages of it having as yet been published or translated, and the greater part of the *Sutta Nipāta* being among the unpublished portion, this instalment of Sir Coomāra Swāmy's version of it must be very welcome to all interested in Buddhism.

Of the seventy suttas or chapters which form the *Sutta Nipāta*, thirty are here translated, about two-thirds of them being quite new to European scholars; and the translation of the remainder is to follow in a second volume. Judging from the correctness of the author's version of the *Dāthāvamsa*, one naturally relies on the general accuracy of this one; and this expectation is quite borne out by a comparison with such texts as have been published; the present version, for instance, of Uraga Sutta being much better than that given by Spiegel at page 83 of his *Anecdota Palica*.

One of the Suttas now published is particularly noteworthy from being ascribed to Kāsyapa Buddha, the last of the twenty-four Buddhas who preceded Sākyamuni the founder of Buddhism. This is the Āmagandha Sutta in which it is laid down that it is not the eating of unclean food which defiles a man, so much as the practice of wrong actions; one verse, the fourth, giving the thoughts and almost the very words of St. Matthew xv. 19. When Fa Hian, the Chinese pilgrim, visited India, shortly after 400 A.D., he found, near to Srāvasti, a sect of Buddhists, who rejected Sākyamuni, reverencing only the three previous Buddhas, and claiming to be followers of Devadatta, the cousin and chief opponent of Sākyamuni Buddha. These sectaries showed Fa Hian a dagaba which they said was erected over the body of Kāsyapa, and another said to be built over the spot where he died. There are some isolated and inconsistent notices of Kāsyapa in Hardy's *Manual of Buddhism*, and other books, but no doctrines ascribed to him by tradition had previously been made public.

Besides the historical Buddha and the twenty-four legendary Buddhas, other Buddhas are mentioned called Pratyeka Buddhas, or those who are enlightened for themselves alone. They had sufficient wisdom to gain Nirvāna for themselves at times when no Buddha was alive, and the teachings of former Buddhas had been forgotten; but their wisdom was not sufficient to enable them to show the way to Nirvāna to others. Several of their sayings are mentioned in the native books, and *Khaggavisāna Sutta* in this collection is said to have been originally spoken by them at different times. One of the tenets of the now rapidly increasing Amarapura or Puritan sect in Ceylon is to reject the teachings ascribed to the Pratyeka Buddhas, when not confirmed by Gautama Buddha himself; there should, therefore, be some distinguishing marks about their doctrine, but this Sutta contains nothing that would not be consistent with, and very little that cannot be found in, the *Dhammapada*.

It is well known that the latter book, like

the *Sutta Nipāta*, is a collection of choice verses and passages from the other sacred books; and the commentary affects to give for each verse the place at which, and the person about whom, it was originally uttered. In the *Vāsettha Sutta*, pp. 133-138 of the *Sutta Nipāta*, there are twenty-nine verses which also occur in the *Dhammapada*, vv. 396-423, and it is instructive to notice that for each of the twenty-nine the *locus* and *persona* given in the *Dhammapada* differ from those given in the *Sutta Nipāta*.

The *Parābhava Sutta*, p. 27, deserves notice as being the pendant, as it were, to the *Mangala Sutta*, the "Buddhist Beatitudes," published by Mr. Childers in his *Khuddaka Pāṭha*; and again in this collection, p. 72. The *Salla Sutta*, p. 124, has been edited by Fausböll, at the end of his *Dasaratha Jātaka*; two other suttas have already been published by Mr. Childers, and two by Mr. Alwis; and the prose portion of the *Kasibhāradvāja Sutta* relates the same story as that translated by Hardy at p. 214 of his *Manual of Buddhism*, from the *Milinda Prasāya*, the present version from the original Pāli being, however, as might be expected, much more simple than that from the Sinhalese.

It would have added much to the value of the present volume if these former labours in the same field had been mentioned, and made use of in the appropriate places; with the exception of a general word or two in the introduction, to the effect that "a few of the Suttas in the present book . . . have been translated and published in different journals," they are passed over in complete silence. Perhaps the aim of the book, which is intended, we are told, "not so much for the critical student as for the general reader," precluded any critical discussions as to disputed passages, and may have had something to do with the omission of the text, and with the somewhat superficial nature of some of the notes, and of the remarks on Nirvāna. If so, we venture to think that the aim is a mistake. Unless the general reader is much maligned, he is scarcely likely to appreciate the *Sutta Nipāta*, however sweetened and softened to his taste.

A good book for the general reader on Buddha and Buddhism is much wanted, but can scarcely be written yet; and we hope the second volume of the *Sutta Nipāta* will be written for scholars only, and will not appear without the text. This would have been published along with the translation but for two difficulties: firstly, that of obtaining a sufficiently correct one; and, secondly, that of deciding in what character to print it. Its omission is particularly unfortunate, as Sir Coomāra Swāmy's version differs in several places (in those suttas which have already been translated) from that of other scholars; and makes use, in other places, of striking expressions the meaning of which is not clear,* or is apparently un-Buddhist.

The editor of the *Dāthāvamsa* is quite

* To give one example, at v. 31 of the *Khaggavisāna Sutta* it is said that a priest is to have a mind not "attached to this or that family." If this means that kindly feelings towards all the world are to swallow up and destroy attachment to any particular person, it is an odd way of saying it. But the same expression occurs at v. 2 of the *Metta Sutta*, p. 38, of which Mr. Childers has already given us the text

capable—favoured as he is by the valuable assistance of the able Sinhalese scholars, such as Batuwantudāve and Gunasekara—of giving a sufficiently good text of the *Sutta Nipāta*, which, doubly commented as it has been, cannot be so very corrupt. If the text is only published in a scholarly manner, it does not very much matter in what alphabet it appears. Sinhalese, Roman, and Devanāgarī have each their advantages, but the former would probably be the cheapest and also the easiest, being that in which the MSS. are written.

We look, therefore, for the second volume, not without the text, and have meanwhile to thank the author for a valuable addition to our Buddhist library.

T. W. RHYS DAVIDS.

SCIENCE NOTES.

METEOROLOGY.

Report of the Permanent Committee of the Vienna Congress.—This Report, which has just appeared, contains the account of the meeting of the committee held at Utrecht last August, with certain appendices, the most important of which consists of letters from various meteorologists on certain questions connected with the science, and on the extent to which the resolutions adopted at Vienna will be carried out in their respective countries. The principal action of the committee has been in regard of International Meteorology. It has been decided that it is not advisable at present to attempt the establishment of an International Meteorological Institute; but, on the other hand, it has been determined to endeavour to organise a uniform scheme of publication for the returns from different countries. The greatest difficulty in all climatological studies consists in the fact that the results published in the different countries are not of the same character, and are therefore not comparable with each other. The committee have, therefore, proposed two schemes—one for the monthly summaries from all stations, and the other for the actual observations to be taken at a limited number of stations in each country, the proportion for the United Kingdom of these international stations being sixteen. If this measure can only be carried out, a great step towards uniformity will have been made. A code for Weather Telegraphy was recommended for general adoption. It does not differ very much from that first devised by Admiral FitzRoy. The other resolutions were of minor importance, but two circulars which were issued by the Committee deserve special notice. The first asks for information as to the existing meteorological organisations in the several countries; the second is intended to obtain particulars as to the stores of unpublished observations which must exist in all large meteorological institutions and observatories, and as to the terms on which copies of them may be procured.

Daily Charts in Newspapers.—We may safely expect that these charts, the publication of which was commenced on April 1 in the *Times*, will soon be adopted by other papers. The measure of illustrating the Daily Weather Report was announced in the report of the Meteorological Committee for 1873, but it is not until now that the practical difficulties of carrying it out have been finally mastered. The idea was first started by Mr. Francis Galton, and has been practically

in the *Journal of the R. A. S.* for 1869. The Pāli words there are "ananugiddho kulesu," "not greedy about houses or families," and refer to the rule binding on every priest to beg his daily food, and in doing so not to go greedily to those houses where dainty gifts might be expected, but to beg straight on from door to door until, of whatever kind of food, enough for a meal had been given to him.

carried out by Messrs Shanks and Johnson, of the Patent Type Founding Company. The method is as follows:—A chart is drawn in the Meteorological Office, and this is then copied at a reduced scale, by means of a pantograph working a drill, on a block of a special material, on which the outline of the land has already been impressed. The information contained is very limited, consisting only of the isobaric lines, a few temperatures, and some words relating to the state of the sky and the sea. As soon as the chart is engraved the block is placed in a mould, and a cast of type-metal is made, which can then be set up with type as soon as it is cool. The whole process takes less than an hour.

Alterations in the Level of Rivers.—Herr G. Wex, the director of the great Danube works at Vienna, has handed in to the Imperial Academy an elaborate report on the extent to which the mean level of rivers is falling, so as seriously to interfere with navigation, while at the same time the floods are increasing in height and severity. These actions are both produced by the same cause, the clearing of forest, which causes the rain water to run more rapidly off the land, instead of being retained there to feed the springs and maintain a constant supply for the head waters of rivers. The Academy referred the subject to a committee, which has presented a report confirmatory of Herr Wex's views, and it has been resolved to endeavour to collect information on the subject of the actual discharge of rivers for a series of years, from all countries.

Relation of the Velocity of the Wind to the Gradients.—In the 6th and 7th numbers of the Austrian Journal for Meteorology, Dr. Hann gives at some length a notice of the views of Ferrel (in *Silliman's Journal* for November, 1874), who attributes the origin of storms to the mechanical action of currents at the earth's surface, in contradistinction to those who seek for their cause in the physical action of heat producing an ascending current. Dr. Hann himself is an adherent to the mechanical theory of the production of the barometrical depression at the centre of the cyclone mainly by the two agencies, the effect of the earth's rotation, and centrifugal force. As regards the former, he shows on mechanical principles that any current of air must give rise to a reduction of pressure on its left-hand side in the northern hemisphere, so that the gradient is, in great measure, an effect of the motion of the wind. In reference to the latter, he points out the error of Loomis' oft-quoted statement that centrifugal force could not of itself generate a depression of more than 0.005 in. One great difference between tropical cyclones and similar storms of higher latitudes, according to Hann, consists in the fact that in the former it is the centrifugal force, in the latter the earth's rotation, which plays the principal part. A digest of Ferrel's mathematical reasoning, dealing with a supposed spiral motion of the air, and taking account of friction, follows, with which, however, Dr. Hann does not entirely agree; but the equations show that the velocity is not strictly proportional to the gradients in all parts of the cyclone, and that the value of this velocity for the same gradient is nearly inversely proportional to the sine of the latitude, so that it is much higher in the Torrid than in the Temperate zone. All the non-periodic variations of the barometer are related to the passage of cyclonic disturbances near the place of observation, and so at the Equator, where there are no cyclones, these variations vanish. The investigation further shows that if the friction be assumed to vary as the velocity, the entire difference of pressure between the outer and inner portions of the cyclone, or the total gradient, must vary as the square of the sine of latitude, and accordingly the barometrical oscillations must increase with the latitude in that proportion. The theory would therefore not only account for the irregular oscillations of the barometer, but for their increase with the latitude.

The Origin of Cyclones.—As might be expected, the views of M. Faye, which we noticed in our issue of April 3, have not long remained unassailed, for in the *Comptes Rendus* of March 15, M. Peslin, one of the ablest contributors to the mathematical theory of the ascending currents of air, has formally challenged M. Faye to state the grounds on which he bases his ideas of the descent of the air in a cyclone from the upper regions of the atmosphere. M. Faye, in reply, simply takes the case of a "trombe," or whirlwind, and says that as this phenomenon appears while the air at the earth's surface is at rest, the entire movement must take its rise in the upper strata, whose rapid motion is visible in the passage of the clouds across the sky. In the next number, for April 5, M. Peslin rejoins that the direct connexion between waterspouts and cyclones has yet to be established by observation, and that dust-storms certainly indicate an ascending current, not a descending one. He finally proposes to test his opponent's theory by the possibility of explaining by its means the excessive rainfall of cyclones. M. Faye, in his answer, does not take up the last-mentioned question, but confines himself to a reiteration of the identity of origin of all rotatory motions, insisting on the statement that none of the ascensional theories will account for the advance of a cyclone from the place where it takes its rise.

Hailstorms in Würtemberg.—Herr Cameron, of the Statistical Office of Würtemberg, has recently published an analysis of the damage done by hail in that country in the forty-six years, 1828-73, as shown by the amount of taxes remitted to the various parishes on account of such damage. The average annual cost during the entire period is about 116,000*l.* It appears clearly from the subjoined figures that hailstorms and thunderstorms are steadily increasing in severity, for the following are the average amounts of area (in hectares) damaged on each day of storm:—

1834-43 . . .	625.5
1844-53 . . .	689.0
1854-63 . . .	840.8
1864-73 . . .	1,215.4

The districts chiefly exposed to damage are those lying on the edge of wooded mountains, while the open lowlands are comparatively exempt.

Relations between Pressure and Velocity of Wind.—In the Proceedings of the Berlin Academy for 1874, Herr G. Hagen has published a paper "On the Resistance of the Air to a Plane Surface moved in a direction normal to its Plane." He finds that the conversion of pressure to velocity accords well with the theory if the periphery of the plate be taken into account, for the friction of the air on the edge of the plate causes an increase of resistance. On the other hand, no difference was observed between plates with rough and smooth surfaces. Herr Hagen's formula is:—

$$P = (0.00707 + 0.000125 S) A v^2.$$

P is the pressure, S the periphery of the plate, A its area, v the velocity of the wind. P is in grammes. S, A, and v are said to be given in décimètres.

Wind and Weather.—We are glad to welcome a German edition of Professor Mohn's handbook, *Om Wind og Vejr*,* which in its Norsk dress was almost a sealed book to British meteorologists. The work has been carefully revised and the charts re-drawn, and is issued with a preface by Dr. Neumayer. As its title shows, it is not a treatise on general meteorology, but is an eminently popular account of that portion of it which relates to practical weather knowledge, with occasional digressions into climatology, and, as might be expected, it has a special reference to the conditions of weather with which its author is most familiar—those of North-western Europe. This is hardly a defect for us in these islands, and

* *Grundzüge der Meteorologie, die Lehre von Wind und Wetter.* Von H. Mohn. Berlin Reimer, 1875.

it must be remembered that the book was originally written for use in Norway, and that most of the examples cited to prove each statement are taken from the observations at Norwegian stations.

In one respect this book contrasts favourably with other well-known text-books of the science, and this is that in only one instance are the author's own views brought into the foreground. This is as regards his theory for the motion of storms, which was first broached in his *Atlas des Tempêtes*, 1871. As will be seen from the discussions now going on in France, and from Dr. Hann's papers, these views are not universally accepted. Very little space is allotted to the description of instruments, but the explanation of the diurnal and annual march of the several elements observed is very clearly set forth, while, as might be expected from the author's antecedents, a considerable space is devoted to the treatment of hygrometric questions, especially as to the effect of aqueous vapour on the motion of storms. The distribution of temperature, pressure and wind, and aqueous vapour over the globe are shown by charts for January and July respectively; those of the first-named elements being taken from Dove's and Buchan's papers, while the last are quite new and of considerable interest. The principles laid down in the first portion of the book are finally applied to the discussion, and explanation of a series of weather charts for the North of Europe, showing, among other points of practical importance, how storms change in their character and intensity as they advance from the sea over the land, and how the phenomena recorded at the several stations are modified in consequence. The book concludes with some remarks on storm-warnings, from which we see that the author has been led by his own experience to recognise the extreme difficulty of forecasting weather on the exposed western coasts of Europe.

GEOLOGY.

A MEMOIR on the Geology of the Burnley coal-field, just issued by the Geological Survey, forms the fourteenth Report which the Survey has published in explanation of the structure of the coal-fields of Great Britain. The present volume contains a description of the highly-developed carboniferous series of North Lancashire, including the small fields of Burnley and Blackburn, and taking in the country around Clitheroe, Chorley, Haslingden, Preston, and Todmorden. The memoir has been written chiefly by Professor Hull and Mr. R. H. Tiddeman, the latter acting as general editor, assisted by Messrs. J. O. Ward, J. B. Dakyns, W. Gunn, and C. E. De Rance. Some palaeontological details are contributed by Mr. Etheridge.

In the course of a lecture at the Royal Institution on Friday, March 23, Professor Ramsay developed an interesting argument in support of his proposition that the Alps in pre-miocene times were probably higher than they are now, notwithstanding the fact that their present elevation is due to subsequent upheaval. That the Alps suffered very extensive denudation during the miocene period is amply demonstrated by reference to the enormous thickness of freshwater and marine deposits of miocene age now spread over Switzerland; these deposits having been formed by the degradation of the old Alps. An elevation of upwards of 5,000 feet took place after the deposition of these strata, but the Alps continued to suffer denudation during the pliocene and post-pliocene ages, although it is difficult to estimate the extent of this loss. The lecturer showed by detailed calculations that the amount of material worn away in the miocene period would alone have been sufficient to raise the pre-miocene Alps to a considerable elevation.

ATTENTION has been called by the Rev. A. Irving, of Nottingham, to an interesting section of Rhaetic beds, overlain by boulder-clay, exposed

in the cutting of a railway now in course of construction between Melton Mowbray and Nottingham. It is expected that when the cutting is completed an exposure will be obtained, second only to the celebrated section at Westbury-on-Severn. It may be mentioned that an excellent account of the geological structure of the country around Nottingham has been contributed by Mr. Irving to a recent number of the *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*. While giving a concise abstract of previous writings on this district, it embodies the results of much original observation.

A RECENT visit to the Falls of Niagara has enabled Mr. T. Belt to suggest some modifications in the views usually entertained with respect to the time occupied in the excavation of the gorge. His argument is published in the April number of the *Quarterly Journal of Science*. It is generally supposed that the entire gorge from Queenstown to the Falls, a distance of seven miles, has been excavated by the present river since the Glacial period. Sir Charles Lyell estimated that the river is cutting its way back at the rate of about one foot per annum, but Mr. Belt believes that the retrocession does not proceed at more than one-tenth of this rate. He maintains, too, that the gorge from the whirlpool to the falls was cut out in pre-glacial times, and that the present river has excavated only that portion of the gorge which is worn out in the softer beds between the whirlpool and Queenstown; its work above that point having been confined to clearing out the bed of the old pre-glacial river in the harder rocks. Mr. Belt believes that the facts connected with Niagara lend support to his views which refer the occurrence of the Glacial epoch to a more recent period than that usually assumed.

AFTER studying the earthquake phenomena of Southern Italy, Professor Suess has laid a paper on this subject before the Vienna Academy of Sciences. In this communication he describes the geological structure of Sicily and the southern part of the Italian peninsula. He concludes that the older rocks of this district, with the patches on the western coast, are to be regarded as a continuation of the Alps, while the western side of the peninsula represents a vast area of subsidence. He recognizes three classes of earthquake-shocks in Sicily and Calabria: namely, eruptive shocks, which have their centre in a volcano, and affect only the immediate neighbourhood; radial shocks, which radiate from the volcano in definite lines; and peripheral shocks, which appear to have no immediate relation with a volcano. His observations sufficiently show the connexion generally existing between volcanoes and earthquakes.

CLOSELY related to these studies of Professor Suess are those of Mr. Judd on the volcanic phenomena of Italy. A series of papers on this subject are in course of publication in the *Geological Magazine*. We understand that Mr. Judd has recently started for Hungary, where he intends to study the eruptive rocks which form so marked a feature in the geology of that area.

ALL subjects relating to Arctic exploration are just now so popular, that Mr. De Rance has done good service by collecting such scraps of information as are to be found on the geology of the Arctic regions, and publishing a concise abstract of them in the columns of *Nature*. His abstracts are accompanied by a map which exhibits what little is known of the structure of these regions.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY (Saturday, April 10).

PROFESSOR G. C. FOSTER, Vice-President, in the Chair.—Professor H. M'Leod communicated to the society some observations on the defects of the human eye as regards achromatism.

The eye has been considered to be achromatic because it practically is so; but it is easy to offer

abundant evidence of the defects of the organ in this respect. For instance, to short-sighted persons the moon appears to have a blue fringe. In using the spectroscope the red and blue ends of the spectrum cannot be seen with equal distinctness without adjusting the focussing glass. A black patch of paper on a blue ground appears to have a fringed edge if viewed from even a short distance; while a black patch on a red ground, when observed under similar conditions, has a perfectly distinct margin. Professor M'Leod then explained that the overlapping of images in the eye produces the mental impression that there is no want of achromatism. It is interesting to note that Wollaston considered that the coloured bands of the spectrum were really divided by the black (Fraunhofer) lines, and his statement that the red end of the spectrum does not appear to have a boundary line "because the eye is not competent to converge the red rays properly," shows that he had very nearly, if not quite, discovered the achromatic defects of the eye. Dr. Young ascribes to Wollaston the merit of having observed that when a luminous point is viewed through a prism, the blue end appears to be wider than the red, the eye being incapable of recognising that the spectrum has the same width throughout its entire length. An experiment was exhibited to show the relative distinctness of a dark line on grounds of various colours. A string or wire was so arranged that its shadow traversed the entire length of the spectrum, which was thrown on a screen by an electric lamp. When viewed from a short distance the edges of the shadow appeared to be sharp at the red end, but gradually became less distinct, until at the blue end nothing but a blurred line remained.

Dr. W. H. Stone considered that the paper was specially valuable as suggesting a possible mode of investigating the relation between the defects of the eye and the personal co-efficient of error in observation.

Professor Guthrie showed a kaleidoscope devised by Mr. R. Cowper, in which the usual geometrical effects were produced by fragments of mica illuminated by polarised light.

Mr. Wilson, Demonstrator in the Physical Laboratory, South Kensington, exhibited a modification of Thomson's electrometer, which might be readily constructed at a small expense. He used two discs of glass, and replaced the usual brass quadrants by tinfoil; the connexion between the binding screws and the quadrants was effected by fusible solder and platinum wires.

The Chairman then alluded to the lamented death of a member of the Society, Mr. C. Becker, of the firm of Messrs. Elliot, whose loss will be severely felt in every laboratory in this country.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY (Monday, April 19).

SIR EDWARD COLEBROOKE, Bart., M.P., in the Chair. The Rev. S. Beal read a paper "On Mount Meru and the Origin of the Homeric Olympus," the purport of which was to show that the legends connected with Mount Meru, found in the Chinese Buddhist books, betrayed a common origin with the Greek conception of the Olympus as the abode of their gods. To prove this view, Mr. Beal proceeded to compare the nature and attributes of the deities which are represented as occupying the different zones and peaks of Mount Meru with those of corresponding Greek deities, viz., Sun, Moon, Bacchus, Demeter, Here, Hephaistos, and Athene. In the discussion which ensued Messrs. E. L. Brandreth, F. Pincott, and the chairman took part.

The Dean of Lincoln then read a paper "On the Ruins of Sigiri," by his son, Mr. T. H. Blakesley, of the Public Works Department, Ceylon. The rock of Sigiri, in the northern extremity of the Central Provinces of Ceylon, which rises some 500 feet above the surrounding plain, appears in early times to have constituted the citadel of a

fortified position, surrounded by earthworks and moats the sides of which were in some parts revetted with stone. Two quadrangular areas have been traced out by Mr. Blakesley, comprising together with the rock a space of about 600 acres, and defended not only by the walls and moats above mentioned, but on the eastern side by a large artificial lake, which was doubtless also used for the purposes of agricultural irrigation. Extensive earthworks (bunds) for the diversion of running water into particular channels may be traced in different directions for two or three miles. The locality has been for centuries thickly covered with jungle, and all that now remains of the lake is a swamp occupying only a portion of its former extent; but there are still to be seen paintings on parts of the surface of the great rock of a very remarkable character, apparently suggesting the existence of close relations between China and Ceylon. Mr. Blakesley ascribes the earthworks and some of the bunds at Sigiri to King Kasyapa the Parricide, who lived in the fifth century of our era; and the completion of the water arrangements to Parákrama Báhu in the middle of the twelfth century. Earlier than either of them—indeed as early as the first century, B.C.—are, in his opinion, the walls of cyclopean masonry still to be seen at Mapa-gala, a pair of rocks about half a mile south of the rock of Sigiri. United with the works about the latter, the whole must have constituted a military position of almost unparalleled strength against the appliances of Oriental warfare.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON (Tuesday, April 20).

ROBERT HUDSON, Esq., F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March, 1875, and called particular attention to the following animals:—An Indian wild dog (*Canis primaevus*, Hodgs.) from British Burmah, presented March 3, by Lord Northbrook, the Governor-General of India; three crested black kites (*Buteo tephrotus*); a Himalayan magpie (*Pica bottanensis*); and a Hamadryad snake (*Ophiophagus elaps*), obtained by purchase; and a bearded falcon (*Falco biarmicus*), presented by Captain Parry, of the barque *Isabella Blyth*. A letter was read from Lieutenant R. J. Wardlaw-Ramsay, dated Tonghoo, British Burmah, November 22, 1874, containing additional remarks on the woodpecker (*Gecinurus erythropygus*) described by him at a former meeting (*P.Z.S.* 1874, p. 212, pl. xxxv.). Mr. Edward R. Alston exhibited and made remarks on a rufous variety of the Murine dormouse (*Graphiurus murinus*, Desm.) from West Africa. Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited and made remarks on two hybrid pheasants, the result of a cross between *Phasianus colchicus* and *Euplocamus nycthemerus*. Mr. A. H. Garrod read a paper on the structure of the deep plantar tendons in different birds, in which the different modes of arrangement of these tendons were pointed out, and their importance in the classification of the order insisted upon. A communication was read from Mr. R. J. Lechmere-Guppy on the occurrence of *Helix coactiliata* in Trinidad, and on the general distribution of the land and fresh-water mollusca of that island. A second communication from Mr. Guppy contained a note on a variety of *Bulimus constrictus* found in Venezuelan Guiana. A communication was read from the Rev. O. P. Cambridge, in which he gave descriptions of nine new species of spiders of the genus *Erigone* additional to those described in a former communication on the same subject. A communication was read from Mr. George Gulliver containing a description of the spermatozoa of the Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*). Mr. R. B. Sharpe exhibited and made remarks on some specimens of some rare species of birds of prey, lately received by the British Museum from Australia.

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY (*Wednesday, April 21*).

DR. R. J. MANN, President, in the Chair.—Mr. Scott read a paper, "Notes on Sea Temperature Observations on the Coasts of the British Islands." He said that it mainly related to the connexion between sea temperature and the take of fish on the coasts, and he noticed the investigations formerly carried on by the Dutch in this direction, and that now in progress under the direction of the Scottish Meteorological Society. He read a letter from Mr. F. Buckland on the subject, which, however, proposed a scheme of action which would entail heavy expenditure; while at present there was no satisfactory record kept of the take of fish on any coasts except those of Scotland. Mr. Scott then said that he had had some observations of sea temperature taken at some stations in the West of England and on the coasts of the Irish Sea, and had received some observations from Mr. W. Dymond and from Mr. N. Whitley; and he submitted some monthly mean temperatures from a few stations. He also stated that both the Trinity House and the Commissioners of Irish Lights had kindly consented to have observations taken at certain light-ships, and that instruments had been supplied for the purpose, and the enquiry was in progress. In conclusion, he mentioned the steps taken by the German Government to investigate the temperature, &c., of the sea on their Baltic and North Sea coasts, and expressed a hope that our Government would undertake a similar enquiry.

Mr. Pastorelli read a paper on "The Errors of Low-Range Thermometers." He pointed out some of the difficulties which instrument makers have to encounter in graduating thermometers from 32°-0 to -37°-0, the freezing point of mercury, as there is no intermediate fixed point. He believed that fairly accurate thermometers could only be obtained by calibration.

M. Louis Redier exhibited his new barograph, which was explained to the meeting by Mr. Symons.

Mr. Scott also exhibited Professor Wild's pressure anemometer.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (*Monday, April 26*).

A MOST interesting paper was read by Mr. Markham on "Travels in Great Tibet and Trade Routes between Tibet and Bengal." At the outset Mr. Markham observed that, until that very evening, no account of Great Tibet derived from personal observation of an actual traveller had ever been submitted to the Society, with the exception of that by Colonel Montgomerie's Pundit in 1865. He (Mr. Markham) was, however, enabled to lay before them the experiences of Mr. George Bogle, an emissary of Warren Hastings, and Mr. Thomas Manning, a private traveller—two individuals whose journals had never been published, but were now about to be utilised.

Mr. Markham then briefly touched upon the survey of Great Tibet made by the Lama surveyors in 1708, the journeys of Fathers Grueber and Dorville from Peking by way of Lhasa across Nepal to Agra, and of other priests, whose accounts had enabled Klaproth, H. Strachey and others to define the geography of the country. Mr. Markham described this latter part of the subject, and drew a striking parallel between Great Tibet and the Collao of Peru. He pointed out that communication between Tibet and Bengal was at one time frequent and unchecked, but that, according to the Lamas, it fell off after the Mohammedan conquests in India, and the jealous policy of the Chinese prevented its renewal.

At the time of the English war with Bhutan, the Teshu Lama endeavoured to make peace between the combatants, and Warren Hastings clinched the opportunity of entering into negotiations by despatching Mr. Bogle as envoy, with

the object of opening up and restoring trade between Bengal and Tibet. Mr. Markham described the journey of Mr. Bogle, by way of the Chumbi valley, across the Tsanpu, by means of flat-bottomed barges, up to Desheripgay, the Lama's residence. The Lama made a deep and lasting impression on Mr. Bogle by his winning manner, and his nephew, the Pyn Kushus, also showed him great hospitality. Both the Lama and Mr. Bogle unfortunately died in the same year, and so no permanent results came of this friendship, for when Captain Turner was sent a few years later, the Teshu Lama's successor was an infant of seven.

The other traveller, T. Manning, was a mathematical tutor at Cambridge, who determined to visit Tibet. Charles Lamb, who was his friend, tried to dissuade him, writing: "The reading of Chaucer has misled you. Do not credit his foolish stories about Cambuscan and the ring and the horse of brass. Believe me, there are no such things. 'Tis all the poet's invention. Pray try and cure yourself. Take hellebore. Pray to avoid the fiend. Read no books of voyages, they are nothing but lies; and oh! do not go to Independent Tartary." All this was in vain, and Manning set out in disguise, the Company having apparently refused to give him any commission. He went past the ring-shaped lake of Palti, crossed the Tsanpu, and reached Lhasa, where he was much struck with the Dalai Lama. He returned to India by the way he came, leaving Lhasa April 19, 1812.

Mr. Markham then gave an account of the work of exploration in Tibet done by Colonel Montgomerie's emissaries—the Pundit of 1865, who traversed Nepal, and journeyed down the Tsanpu to Lhasa; the explorer of 1871, who reached Shigatze, and the more recent journey of the Tibetan who has surveyed Lake Namcho or Tengri-Nor. Mr. Markham concluded by enumerating the passes leading from Bengal into Tibet, and the prospects of trade between the two countries; the products of the first named, which reach Tibet by way of Nepal and Ladak, consisting of broadcloth, cottons, coral, pearls, tobacco, opium, and some rich stuffs; and the exports from Tibet being blankets, musk, cowtails, borax, ponies, gold and silver. The great wealth of the country being its flocks and herds, wool and ghee might be imported to an enormous extent.

Colonel Montgomerie explained his method of training natives for trans-frontier exploration round India after the fashion of a *cordon*. There were still, however, strips of unknown land waiting to be explored—200 miles of the course of the Upper Indus, and 350 miles of the lower Tsanpu, besides all the vast region extending between Yarkand and the desert of Gobi—and some enterprising Englishman would do well to endeavour to throw open this region.

Sir George Campbell, K.C.S.I., observed that very great credit was due to Mr. Markham for having unearthed and brought to light the valuable journals of Bogle and Manning, as well as to Colonel Montgomerie for his admirable system of exploration by native agency. He defended the exclusive policy of the Chinese, and said it was a natural policy in view of our expanding Indian empire. He drew attention to the various sources of information respecting Tibet, laying stress upon the value of Huc and Gabet's work, and expressed an opinion that trade, by way of the Assam Valley and Bathang, deserved much more attention than had been bestowed upon it.

Sir Cecil Beadon, K.C.S.I., related the steps taken during the time of his Lieut.-Governorship to revive trade with Tibet. He feared, however, it could never attain important dimensions.

Sir R. Alecock briefly expressed his entire concurrence with Sir G. Campbell's views respecting the Chinese policy.

The President (Sir H. Rawlinson) then enumerated the services rendered to the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India, and to geographical

science, by Mr. Johnson, Governor of Ladak, who in turn briefly acknowledged the compliment.

The President then announced the award of the two gold medals for the year to Messrs. Weyprecht and Payer, of the Austro-Hungarian Arctic Expedition, as well as the result of the public school examinations in geography for the gold and bronze medals of the Society. The subject of the next meeting will be "Arctic Sledge Travelling," by Sir L. McClintock.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (*Wednesday, April 28*).

J. EVANS, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair. In a paper "On *Stagonolepis Robertsoni*," Professor Huxley described the investigations which he had made on the structure of this reptile, since he described it before the Society seventeen years ago. He now exhibited a collection of fragments and impressions of bone in the yellow Triassic sandstone of Lossiemouth, accompanied by a number of plaster casts obtained from the sandstone moulds. In these remains we have representatives of all parts of the vertebral column, except the axis and atlas; the vertebrae had amphicoelous centra. There are also mutilated fragments of the skull, and a considerable number of teeth; the pectoral arch, including the ankylosed scapula and coracoid, and the characteristic interclavicle; the humerus, sacrum, ilium, ischium, femora, and probably other bones. From these data it appears that the *Stagonolepis* was a crocodilian reptile, from twelve to fourteen feet in length, armed with two rows of ridged scutes on the dorsal, and with a plastron on the ventral surface. Professor Huxley's studies of the recent and extinct forms of Crocodilia have enabled him to trace the successive steps in the evolution of this group. He recognises three distinct sections—the Eusuchia, including the existing forms and the extinct species down to the later cretaceous deposits; the Mesosuchia, embracing the Crocodilian fossils from the Wealden beds to the Upper Lias; and the Parasuchia, including the Triassic forms—*Stagonolepis* and *Belodon*. It is notable that, as the older groups differ from the modern Crocodilia they approach to the Lacertilian type. Mr. H. C. Sorby described the remains of a fossil Forest of Sigillaria exposed in the grounds of the County Lunatic Asylum at Wadsley, near Sheffield. From the direction in which the roots ramify through the shale Mr. Sorby has ingeniously sought to determine the direction of the prevailing winds at the time the forest flourished. Professor Nicholson offered some notes on *Favistella stellata* and *F. calicina*, with remarks on the affinities of *Favistella* and allied genera.

ROYAL SOCIETY (*Thursday, April 29*).

THE following papers were read:—"On some Particulars of the Transit of Venus, December 9, 1874, observed on the Himalaya Mountains, Mussoorie. Note No. 2, and Appendix to Notes," by J. B. N. Hennessey; "On a Continuous Self-registering Thermometer," by W. H. Cripps.

FINE ART.

ART BOOKS.

Troy and its Remains. (Murray.) The appearance of Dr. Schliemann's book on Troy in its original German form gave occasion to so much criticism in these columns that they may fairly be considered closed against any revival of the issues involved by his discoveries. We can therefore speak only of the new English dress in which the book appears, and of that only in high terms of praise towards all concerned—the translator Miss Dora Schmitz, the editor Mr. Philip Smith, and the engraver Mr. Cooper. So satisfactory, indeed, is the translation, that from the beginning we became suspicious lest under its smoothness might lurk mistakes in technical matters, but must confess to having found only one, and that is on p. 24, where the bronze tablet from Idalion

in Cyprus is spoken of as the bronze *table*. On p. 47 it is a typographical error to spell the name of Koumanoudes as Kommanoudes. In the place of Schliemann's enormous, confused, and cumbersome atlas of photographs, we have here interspersed with the text, and in a number of plates at the end, engravings—many of them admirably executed—of views and every object of importance found in the excavations. An appendix giving the results of the most recent investigations in the matter of the inscribed whorls and other objects found by Schliemann, an introduction on the vital question as to the site of Troy, and numerous footnotes, testify to the editorial care with which a once very tiresome book has now become agreeable and most interesting reading.

Chronograph of the Bow, Chelsea, and Derby Manufactories. By W. F. Tiffin. (Salisbury.) A carefully-written manual of the three manufactories arranged in parallel columns, thus enabling the reader to follow the contemporary history of each. To this Mr. Tiffin has added a table of marks, derived either from specimens in his own collection or from unquestionable authority. Many of these are probably only workmen's marks; among them is one which he assigns to Thomas Frye, the original manager of the Bow works, which has been often considered to be an imitation of the Oriental character for "jade;" but Mr. Tiffin's suggestion deserves attention. The F in the mark is reversed, and, as Frye was an engraver as well as a painter, it might naturally occur to him so to make his monogram. The vexed question of the triangle occurring on the pieces of the three manufactories has yet to be settled. Mr. Tiffin evidently writes from his own personal experience, and his book is consequently valuable.

Exhibition of Embroidery, Ancient and Modern: Catalogue of the Liverpool Art Club. The Liverpool Art Club last year added much to our knowledge of Oriental art by their Japanese exhibition. This year they appear in an exhibition of embroidery, which contains many objects of interest. Mr. J. Bowes sends several examples of Persian embroidery in gold spangles and twisted thread, and there are many pieces of ecclesiastical embroidery of great interest, among which may be particularised a velvet cope, made at Florence by order of Henry VII., and which he bequeathed by will to the Abbey of Westminster, of "clothe of gold tissue wrought with our badgies of rede roses and poorteoles," which he says he caused to be made at "Florence in Italie." The ornamentation consists of two twining stems bearing red and white roses, the Beaufort badge introduced into the border with the SS. collar; St. Dunstan's vestments, so called from the representation of the conflict of the saint, pincers in hand; the Martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury, with canopied saints completing the decorations, all in the work called *opus plumarium*. Other specimens of interest we have not space to mention.

Histoire du Costume en France depuis les Temps les plus reculés jusqu'à la fin du XVIII. Siècle. Par J. Quicherat. (Paris: Hachette.) *Le Dix-huitième Siècle.* Par Paul Lacroix. (Paris: Didot.) The exhibition of the Union Centrale, illustrative of the History of Costume, has awakened attention to the subject, and has shown how instructive is the study of dress as relating to art. The history of costume in France has been undertaken by M. Quicherat, director of the Ecole des Chartes, whose erudition and serious study of the past eminently qualify him for the task. He writes, as he says, specially in the interests of artists:—

"Témoin de l'embarras où se trouvent la plupart de nos artistes lorsqu'ils ont à représenter un sujet de notre histoire ancienne, je me suis appliqué à leur procurer le manuel qui leur manquait. Ils trouveront dans le texte la notice générale du costume de chaque époque, et dans les légendes des figures, lorsque les figures elles-mêmes ne leur suffiront pas, l'indication des ouvrages auxquels ils pourront recourir."

Such is the plan of this work, which is ably carried out and profusely illustrated by engravings from original documents. M. Quicherat divides his work into thirty-two chapters, assigning four for the early periods, as many for the Middle Ages, ten for the Valois kings, three for Henry IV. and his son, four for Louis XIV., taking his youth, the height of his splendour, and the solemn monotony of his declining years, when under the influence of the ambitious woman he had married without daring to acknowledge. The remaining chapters finish the century. A love of ornament, says M. Quicherat, preceded the wearing of clothes. To stain the skin with vegetable or mineral colours, to paint the body with figures, to decorate and arrange the hair, and to suspend to the person small objects which shine at a distance, or jingle in walking, are adornments to which no nation, however primitive, is a stranger. Traversing the earlier periods, we arrive at the Middle Ages, when men's dress, which for 600 years had been short, now becomes long, a change attributed to the contact of the Normans with their countrymen in Apulia and Sicily, who had adopted the luxurious habits of the Greeks and Saracens. Under Francis I. again a sensible change took place in French manners, in consequence of the presence of ladies at Court. The King loved dress, the costumes were more elegant, and all concurred to make the French Court the most brilliant of the age. The reign of Louis XIV., in his early years, was all splendour, profusion, and magnificence; but after his morose old age the Regency appears as a carnival. Here begins the work of M. Lacroix, whose writings on the preceding ages are so well known. In this he enters on a period so near our own, yet so different, and separated by a revolution. His book is not confined to dress alone, but he gives an account of the institutions, customs, and society of this remarkable age, of which we have such lively representations in the writings and artists of the time. It is from that source that M. Lacroix takes his illustrations. Watteau, Boucher, Lancret, Cochin, Chardin, and a host of others, furnish pictures not only of costume, but also of the Court fêtes, balls at the opera, street scenes, &c. His work may be styled "The Eighteenth Century, painted by itself." The sumptuous formal elegance of the Court of Louis XIV. gave place to the greatest licence caprice and fancy could suggest. Fashions changed with manners, and the elegances of the boudoir replaced the stately solemnity of the "grands appartements." The eighteenth is the great century of French fashion in its wildest extravagance, identified with "paniers," powdered head-dress, and rouge. When Marie Thérèse arrived to marry the Dauphin, she refused to sacrifice herself to this last fashion; a family council was held at Versailles, followed by a formal order from the King, to which she had no alternative but to submit. We leave it to the reader to follow M. Lacroix to the end of the century. The interest of his book is enhanced by the circumstance of its describing the tastes and occupations of the generations which have so immediately preceded us.

L'Ornement des Tissus, Recueil Historique et Pratique. Par M. Dupont-Auberville. Cent Planches. (Paris: Bachelin Deflorenne.) The author of this work, a gentleman of Normandy of high artistic tastes, is best known to the English public by his superb collection of lace, chronologically arranged, by which he added so materially to the instruction conveyed by the International Exhibition of Lace. In Paris, M. Dupont-Auberville contributed to the Museum of Costume a series of specimens of textiles from the earliest times to the nineteenth century, also arranged in chronological order, which collection he has generously offered to the national museum. No writer is better qualified for his task, from his thorough practical knowledge of the subject. His work is to be illustrated by 100 chromolithographs, of which the first number gives a favourable earnest. He

begins with the thirteenth century, with the animals facing each other (*affrontés*), the true Persian type, which we find in the embroidered towels that decorate the izba of the Russian peasant, as well as in the costly Sicilian fabric which he gives in illustration. The furniture of the bed of Henry II. is a good specimen of Renaissance decoration, and of similar *appliqué* workmanship is a table cover executed in black velvet upon white satin, in which the grotesques rival in beauty, delicacy, and variety those on the maiolica of Urbino. On one plate M. Dupont-Auberville gives specimens of the *branche tronquée* style, derived from the Knollet stitch, imprise of the Burgundians during their faction with the Armagnacs. A gorgeous plate of which the imprise of the *roi soleil* forms the centre, shows the style formed on the inspirations of Bérain, and the ribbon pattern of the seventeenth century turning into "reserves" or medallions finishes the first number of a work of the greatest promise.

Notice Historique et Descriptive sur la Tapisserie dite la Reine Mathilde, exposée à la Bibliothèque de Bayeux, par l'Abbé Laffetay. (Bayeux, 1874.) Queen Matilda's tapestry has been so often described and so faithfully reproduced as, one would suppose, to require no further chronicler; but the Abbé Laffetay, as its curator in his capacity of librarian at Bayeux, has deemed it incumbent on him to add another notice of this tapestry of world-wide renown. Exposed on fête days during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries in the Cathedral of Bayeux, and mentioned in an inventory of 1496, the "grande toile du Conquest d'Angleterre" had in the eighteenth fallen into oblivion, when Montfaucon drew it from its place of concealment. In revolutionary '92 it had a narrow escape from destruction, being taken to cover a baggage-waggon. When Napoleon I. was preparing his invasion of England, he caused the tapestry to be exhibited at the Louvre; it was then restored to Bayeux, and rolled round a cylinder for exhibition till 1842, when it was transferred to the library and placed in glass frames. The Abbé Laffetay enters into the question of the age of the tapestry, and considers it as belonging to the eleventh century, and contemporary with, if not the actual work of, Queen Matilda. Its admirable reproduction by Stothard is familiar to the visitors of the South Kensington Museum.

Le Missel d'Uzès. Par M. le Docteur Desbarreaux-Bernard. (Toulouse.) This learned book-collector of Toulouse has found in the library of the Abbé Pélissier, curator of the Cathedral of Uzès, a missal printed at Lyons, in 1495, hitherto unknown even to M. Péricaud, the historian of the Lyonesse works of the fifteenth century. Its title is "Explicit Missale secundum usum ecclesie Ucseniensis, impressum Lugdini per magistrum Johannem Numester de Maguncia, et Michaelem Topie. Anno domini m.cccc.xcv. Die vero septima mensis Augusti ii." This superscription, establishes a fact worthy of remark: it is the presence at Lyons, in 1495, of the printer John Numester (of Mayence) whose name appears for the first time in the copy of the "Tractatus de celebratione missarum" of Gutenberg, belonging to the library of M. Chartreux at Mayence. It will be admitted that the discovery of a book printed at Lyons, at the end of the fifteenth century, by the pupil and partner of the inventor of typography, is both curious and important. M. Desbarreaux-Bernard shows that Numester, who assisted Gutenberg at Mayence, Emilianus de Orfinis at Foligno, Michel Topie at Lyons, and who is also supposed to have been called to Albi (Tarn) by Cardinal d'Amboise, should be classed among those nomadic typographers who contributed so largely to the propagation of the art of printing.

La Vie de la Sainte Vierge Marie, en vingt gravures sur bois, par Albert Dürer, Nuremberg, anno 1511, décrite en vers Latins par Chelidonius.

Réproduction, procédé de P. W. van de Weijer, imprimeur lithographe, avec une introduction de Ch. Ruelens. In 4to, parchment wrapper. (Utrecht, 1875.) The exact nature of the process by which this reproduction has been effected is a secret of the inventor, M. P. W. van de Weijer, who simply lets the public know that photography has nothing to do with it. It appears, indeed, to be far superior to any of the numerous photographic and heliographic processes now employed. The present volume, however, does not show all that can be done by its means, for it has evidently been produced from an inferior set of impressions of the prints in their second state, and of course is not better than its original. We have seen heliographic reproductions of some prints of this series superior in tone to the present; it is only fair to add, far higher in price. M. van de Weijer declares that wood engravings can be reproduced by this process without any injury being done to the originals. He is now preparing for publication Dürer's *Great Passion*, reproduced from the splendid series belonging to Dr. Straeter, of Aachen, whose prints cannot be said to have been injured, although they have apparently been subjected to intense pressure. The proofs of some of these we have seen, and they are certainly far superior to the very best heliographic reproductions that have yet appeared. The process being also less expensive, will eventually bring within the reach of the humblest purse copies of the finest woodcuts—certainly finer than late impressions that now sell for a much higher price—and inferior only to the best originals. We feel confident that the value of the latter will increase, notwithstanding Mr. Ruelens' opinion to the contrary; but a great fall in the value of copies and of inferior impressions is inevitable, and that this is really a gain from an art point of view there can be no doubt. Choice engravings of the great masters have risen so much in value of late years that they are now quite out of the reach of the general public, who are only able to gaze on them from time to time for a few minutes. They will now regain their legitimate influence. We venture to predict a great success for M. van de Weijer's process, which we should state is the result of over twenty years of patient study and experiments. EDITOR.

THE WATER-COLOUR INSTITUTE.

(Second Notice.)

THE landscapes in this gallery are not of a very striking kind. Perhaps the two of highest quality are the large views by Mr. Hine of the verdurous downs of our southern coast—*On the Downs, Dorsetshire, and Near Leves.* That aspect of softness combined with largeness and simplicity which is so characteristic of this class of scenery is finely rendered by the artist; the eye is not invited to pause at any particular point, but to spaciately and content itself. Mr. Skill gives, in his work *On the Pincian, Morning*, a true impression of the dome-thronged prospect of Rome from that famous site, paced with staid steps by Passionists and other ecclesiastics; his *Mariannina* is a pretty little figure of an Italian peasant-child. *Llyn Idwal* is well pictured by Mr. Wimperis: he makes the scene silent and solemn, without overstraining. In some other instances this painter takes off Cox too obviously: see especially Nos. 28 and 37. Mr. Edmund Warren has always been pre-eminent in the portraiture—for it is portraiture rather than portrayal—of trees: he is an adept in their structure, their foliage, their light and shade. The examples in the present gallery are among his best: *Near Mark Ash, New Forest*; *The Two Porters, Welbeck, near Sherwood (Famous Oaks of England)*; *The Newton Forster Oak, Sherwood Forest* (same series); *Far from the busy Haunts of Men* (a deer-park). *On the Way to Llyn Idwal* shows Mr. Syer to be highly expert in the treatment of tumbling torrent-

stream and lashed boulders. Mr. Oakes, in *The Welsh Border*, is scarcely up to his own standard: he gives us an extensive and varied landscape, with all sorts of material, including a couple of viaducts, but has painted it with a comparatively lax and perfunctory hand. *San Biaggio, on the Lagune, Venice*, by Mr. J. H. d'Egville, has truth in its moist high-tinted aspect. Another picture of atmospheric effect, but hardly sufficiently dense in tone, is the *Thunder-cloud passing over the Sea*, by Mr. Orrock. *Arundel*, by Mr. T. Collier, is more a sketch than a picture, but in a natural and genuine style.

A painting by Mr. Wolf of an indignant nested pigeon in a fir-tree, intruded upon by a brace of squirrels, *Inquisitive Neighbours*, is certain to be first-rate in the most important qualities; and seldom has this all-accomplished artist-naturalist surpassed the plumage-drawing which we find here. A little more of general tone, subduing the brightness of local colouring, would make this picture as pleasant as it is excellent. The only other animal subject calling for particular mention—and in this the interior counts for fully as much as the animals—is *Temptation*, by Mr. Morin, representing three young cats in a kitchen, greedy after fish. Mrs. Harrison (*Quince*), and Mrs. Coleman-Angell (*Peach-blossom and Crackle Jar, and Azaleas*) show forth well among the flower-painters. W. M. ROSSETTI.

ART SALES.

ON the 20th was sold at the Hôtel Drouot, a collection of modern paintings, among which were fifteen by Corot which fetched the following prices:—*The Hut*, 8,000 fr.; *The Common*, 5,900 fr.; *The Downs*, 4,900 fr.; *The Avenue*, 3,000 fr.; *Marcoussy*, 5,000 fr.; *Pond of Ville-d'Avray*, 6,700 fr.; *Woman at the Well*, 2,350 fr.; *The Stream*, 6,200 fr.; *Corot's House*, 9,000 fr.; *Borders of Lake Nemi*, 4,000 fr.; *Road to Church*, 2,050 fr.; *Environ of Givet*, 1,730 fr.; and *Magdalen*, 1,200 fr. Chintreuil, *Meadow near Millemont*, 1,220 fr.; and *The Orchard in Bloom*, 3,800 fr.; J. M. Claude, *Rotten Row*, 3,000 fr.; Courbet, *Rock of Ornaens*, 3,950 fr.; *Forest in the Autumn*, 780 fr.; *The Damp Grotto*, 1,120 fr.; *Waterspout on the Coast*, 1,250 fr.; Daubigny, *The Meadows*, 2,200 fr.; De la Croix, *Education of Achilles*, 3,050 fr.; Dupré, *Marsh in the Pyrenees*, 12,500 fr.; Feyen-Perrin, *Winnowing Corn at Cancale*, 1,700 fr.; *Fisherman's Family*, 1,700 fr.; J. Hérau, *The Thames at Billingsgate*, 1,900 fr., and *Fishing at Cancale*, 1,550 fr.; Humbert, *The Virgin, Infant Saviour and St. John*, 1,420 fr.; Jundt, *The Islands of the Rhine*, 4,500 fr.; Lansyer, *Bay of Douarnenez*, 1,050 fr.; Millet, *The Gleaners*, 12,100 fr.; De Neuville, *Fight on a Railway*, 11,500 fr.; Ribot, *Girl and Dog*, 3,800 fr.; *The Old Fisherman*, 1,420 fr.; *The Young Cooks*, 4,500 fr., and *Poultry*, 1,020 fr.; Ricard, *Portrait of the Artist*, 5,000 fr.; and of a woman, the same; A. Stevens, *The Bath*, 7,805 fr.; and *The Coquette*, 6,600 fr.; Tassaert, *Girl with Rabbit*, 5,900 fr.; Vollon, *The Golden Dish*, 5,500 fr. The sale produced 227,215 fr. (9,088l. 12s.).

THE Sainte-Seine collection, sold at the Hôtel Drouot on the 15th and following days, was most remarkable for the beauty and importance of the ancient arms, rivaling those of the Séchan sale (ACADEMY, March 6). There was no piece which came up to the famous Venetian poignard for which Baron A. de Rothschild gave 2,000l.; but there was a magnificent sword with iron hilt chased and damascened in gold, Italian work of the sixteenth century—it sold for 34,500 fr. (1,380l.); another, double-handed, of the same period, the favourite arm of the Swiss, 9,000 fr.; sword of the sixteenth century, chased and gilt, with dagger to accompany it, 16,600 fr.; another, with double guard and dagger, sixteenth century, 16,600 fr.; sword chased with birds in relief, six-

teenth century, 6,100 fr.; rapier, same period, 2,800 fr.; wheel arquebuse, 19,500 fr. Fine maiolica plate by Xanto (1558) 16,100 fr.; another with low foot, subject Lucretia, after a print of Marcantonio, 1,890 fr.; bottle with cylindrical neck, 7,500 fr.; oval dish, Limoges enamel, 1,350 fr.; two small plates, translucent enamels, 3,220 fr.; ancient silver patera, 5,650 fr.; renaissance jewel (group of "Oharity") Italian, 7,305 fr.; Venus Victrix, Florentine bronze, 7,000 fr.; bronze medallion of Louis XII. and Anne de Bretagne, made 1499, a fine proof, 610 fr. Persian carpet, silk velvet of marvellous workmanship, from the Piot collection, 12,800 fr. A copy of La Fontaine's *Fables*, with illustrations by Oudry, 4 vols. folio, red morocco, given by Marie Antoinette, 2,000 fr. The sale produced 303,940 fr.

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON completed last week the sale of Messrs. Cramer and Co.'s musical copyrights and plates. Some of them sold as follows:—Cooper's *Introduction to the Organ*, 234l.; Barnett's *Mountain Sylph*, 165 gs.; Sir John Goss's *Harmony and Thorough Bass*, 451l.; Macfarren's *Harmony*, 159l.; Richter's *Harmony and Counterpoint*, 333l.; Cramer's *Chamber Trios for Female Voices*, 1,040l., and *Vocal Gems*, 1,489l.; Sullivan's *Light of the World*, 271l.; *O ma Charmante*, 500 gs.; *Guinevere*, 303l.; *Sailor's Grave*, 97l.; *Little Maid of Arcadee*, 275 gs.; *The Young Mother*, 100 gs.; and *There sat a Bird*, 102l. The total amount 13,000l.

ON Friday and Saturday last (23rd and 24th) the dispersion of the Manley Hall collections was completed by the sale of the pictures. Never were Christie's rooms more crowded, even at the great china sales of last year, than on the present occasion, for the paintings were many of priceless value and familiar to us by exhibition and engraving. There were the masterpieces of Turner, Millais, Frith, Faed, and all the great artists of the modern school, many of which, as Mr. Woods observed, ought to have been secured for the National Galleries. The following are some of the prices:—Egg, *The Night before Naseby*, 280 gs.; MacIise, *Departure of Bayard for the Wars*, 405 gs.; Leslie, *Scene from Henry VIII.*, 1,300 gs.; D. Roberts, *Church of the Holy Nativity, Bethlehem* (formerly in the collection of Louis Philippe, and sold in 1853 for 483l.), 1,350 gs.; and his *Interior of the Cathedral of Seville*, 1,800 gs.; Collins, *The Skittle Players*, 2,300 gs.; Nasmyth, *A Water Fall*, 1,400 gs.; R. Wilson, *Lake Scene with Ruins*, 700 gs.; Gallait, *Columbus in Prison*, 850 gs.; his *Great Picture of Vargas*, on his appointment as President of the Council of Blood, sold by Gambart for 1,500 gs., realised 2,550 gs.; and a study for his celebrated picture of *Counts Egmont and Horn*, 1,100 gs. A small replica of *Napoleon crossing the Alps*, by Paul de la Roche, 8 inches by 6, 40 gs., and the *President Duranti's Death*, from the Demidoff collection, 625 gs. This completed the day's sale, which realised 32,190l. The great prices were reserved for the last day:—W. Field, *A Grey Day on the Thames*, a charming picture, 310 gs.; two pictures painted for the staircase at Manley Hall—*Lago Maggiore*, by Pyne, 370 gs., and *Grand Canal, Venice*, Wyld, 260 gs.; O'Neill, *The Anxious Mother*, a replica, 160 gs.; Wallis, also a replica, 7 inches by 10, of the well-known picture of the *Death of Chatterton*, 260 gs.; Leslie, *Willow, Willow*, 10 inches by 18, one of his most poetical pictures, 220 gs.; Graham, *A Spate in the Highlands*, 10 inches by 14, 410 gs.; Webster, *Sickness and Health*, 6 inches by 10, original study for the great picture, 230 gs.; Linnell, *The Rustic Bridge*, 600 gs.; Leslie, *Elopement*, the girl on one side the river, the youth on the other, 1,100 gs.; Graham, *Among the Hills*, 1,550 gs.; *O'er Moor and Moss*, 1,050 gs.; J. Linnell, *Autumn Evening*, 720 gs.; *The Midday Rest*, a harvest, with a blaze of sun over the corn, 1,300 gs., and *The Tramps*, 1,080 gs.; Millais, *A Swallow flying from the Golden Woods*, 1,000 gs.; Hook, *The Lobster Catcher*, 1,410 gs.; Ansdell,

Visit to the Shrine of the Alhambra, 800 gs. Then followed Millais' splendid picture *Jephthah*, for which Mr. Agnew began by bidding 2,000l., and it finally fell to him for 3,800 gs.; the picture is under glass. Frith, *Sterne's Maria*, 900 gs.; Leighton, *Venetian Lady of the XVIIth Century*, 950 gs.; Barker's well-known picture of the *Relief of Lucknow*, 970 gs. Then came the finest picture Frith ever painted, which was received with acclamations, *Before Dinner at Bowell's Lodgings*, with portraits of Johnson, Goldsmith, &c. Mr. Agnew began by a bid of 2,000 gs., which was followed by another for 3,000, and a third for 4,000. It fell to Mr. Agnew at 4,350 gs., the highest price ever gained by a painter in his lifetime. O'Neil, *The Last Moments of Raffaele*, 1,050 gs.; Faed, *A Wee Bit Fractious*, 1,900 gs., and a charming picture, *Only Herself*, 1,650 gs.; Ward's *Last Sleep of Argyle*, 800 gs., and *Last Scene in the Life of Montrose*, 800 gs., both well known by the engravings; Millais, *Chilly October*, 3,100 gs. Old Cromie, five landscapes—one upright, representing a *Road Scene*, was reserved by Mr. Mendel for 1,250 gs., as there was some doubt of its authenticity, but it was sold for 1,500 gs. Three of the finest pictures were reserved to the last. Turner, *View on the Maas*, 2,500 gs. Sir Edwin Landseer, *The Deer Family*, painted for Mr. Wells, of Redleaf, sold in 1852 for 650 gs., was bought by Lord Dudley, 2,900 gs. The grandest picture concluded the sale—Turner's *Grand Canal at Venice*, from the Monroe collection, where it sold for 2,400 gs. Mr. Agnew began with a bid of 4,000 gs., and it fell to him for 7,000 gs. The ninety-seven pictures of this day's sale fetched 65,593l. 5s. 6d., making a total of 97,997l. 3s. 6d. The whole of the Mendel sale realised 150,147l.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Hildesheim Column, to which we alluded in a previous note (ACADEMY, April 10) as having been recently reproduced for the South Kensington Museum, is said to have been the work of St. Bernard, who was bishop of Hildesheim at the beginning of the eleventh century.

This Bishop Bernard added to his saintly character a great love for art. He was also a skilled worker in metal, and several beautiful specimens of his workmanship in the rarer metals, executed either by himself or by pupils under his direction, may be seen in a glass case in the South Court. They comprise candlesticks of rich design in silver, gold caskets elaborately carved, and exquisitely designed ornaments and reliquaries. But his great achievement was the Hildesheim column, constructed, it is evident, somewhat after the model of the Trajan column at Rome, with a spiral band of bas-reliefs winding up it, only in this instance the reliefs are scenes from the life of Christ; it is in fact a so-called "Christ's Pillar." The shaft of this column rests without other base upon four kneeling figures, supposed, like those that support the font before described, to represent the four rivers of Paradise; the bas-reliefs also begin with an allegorical figure of the river Jordan, and then follow in winding succession the Temptation of Christ, the Calling of Simon and Andrew, the Calling of James and John, the Marriage at Cana, Christ healing a Leper, the Woman of Samaria, the Healing of the Centurion's Son, the Sick Man who was let down through the roof, the Sick Woman healed, Sight restored to the Blind, the Raising of the Widow's Son, the Woman taken in Adultery, the Transfiguration, Christ casting out Devils, Dives and Lazarus, the Barren Fig Tree, Christ at the House of Zaccheus, Christ walking on the Sea, the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes, the Raising of Lazarus, Mary Magdalene, and Christ's Entry into Jerusalem.

This magnificent work of early casting was erected on the Feast of St. Michael in 1022, and was placed in the square in front of the Cathedral of Hildesheim. It had originally a splendid capital surmounted by a crucifix, but this latter

was broken to pieces by fanatics in 1544, the column thrown down, and the capital afterwards melted down in a bell-foundry. The column itself, after many narrow escapes, was finally set up again in 1810, near the spot where St. Bernard had first placed it. The present cast was taken by F. Kùsthardt, of Hildesheim, in 1874.

THE South Kensington Museum has just received a valuable gift. Mr. Wynn Ellis has presented it with the well-known marble statue *Eve at the Fountain*, by E. H. Baily, R.A., one of the most celebrated works of modern English sculpture.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT's picture, *The Shadow of Death*, is highly appreciated in Manchester, where it has been on exhibition for some weeks past. It has been visited by more than 45,000 persons.

THE private view of the picture-gallery at the Crystal Palace took place on April 27, and the prize-medals to the exhibiting artists were awarded on the same day. The judges were—Mr. Wells, R.A., Mr. Duncan, and Mr. Desanges.

It is stated that the Sultan has bought several paintings from the two great French artists, MM. Gérôme and Boulanger.

Le Temps states that the Académie des Beaux-Arts proposes to replace the typical head of Minerva, at present used on its medals and engravings, by the type of the Pallas Velletri, after Flaminio.

THE design of M. Coquart, the architect of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, has been adopted for the Coulmiers monument, which is to be erected in Paris. Only two candidates presented themselves for the architectural *Prix Duc*, a biennial prize of 4,000 fr. It was awarded to M. Dutert.

M. SPITZER has given to the manufactory of the Gobelins, towards assisting its museum, burned by the Commune, the fine tapestry of the end of the fifteenth century, exhibited in the galleries of the History of Costume, representing the deliverance of Dôle and Salins, 1477, by the intercession of St. Anatole. The tapestry bears the arms of Mary of Burgundy, and is therefore of Flemish manufacture. The Museum of the Gobelins has likewise received the gift of an altar-frontal, representing the Entombment, also Flemish, of the beginning of the sixteenth century.

DURING the last year the Museum of Antiquities at Coire has, writes the *Journal de Genève*, been enriched with a number of Etruscan antiquities, with three marble inscriptions, found in the canton of Ticino, many bronze ornaments, and a small vase brought from the tombs at Arbedo discovered in the spring of 1874, of great value, as it is attributed by the learned to the most remote Etruscan epoch.

THE Council for deciding among the competitors for the Sèvres prize have chosen four among the eighty-five designs sent in. M. Lameire, a hydria, blue ground decorated with pastes in relief, representing a battle of cavalry, and round the neck the Labours of Hercules. M. Mayeux, a vase of nearly the same form, with palmette decoration. M. Roger, a crater, with figure handles; and M. Chenet, an ovoid vase with genii for handles, and the lid surmounted by the figure of Minerva. These vases will be modelled in plaster at the manufactory of Sèvres, and will be returned to their owners for final decoration, after which the definitive award of the Council will be given, and the vase selected, immediately executed at Sèvres, and placed in the great gallery of the Louvre.

THE *Echo des Vallées*, a journal of the Hautes-Pyrénées, announces that M. Achille Jubinal, the eminent archaeologist, has definitively purchased the old château of Mauvezin, near Escalade-Dieu, the old manor of Gaston Phoebus, Count of Foix, who probably kept there his enormous hunting establishment and his pack of fourteen hundred dogs. M. Jubinal intends rendering the place in-

structive and interesting to the Pyrenean tourist, by making it a museum of the antiquities of the surrounding country, of which he has already formed a considerable collection at his house at Bagnères.

THE printing of the Report of the French jury upon the Universal Exhibition at Vienna is now completed, and the four first volumes will be distributed on the 27th. Another volume is in the press, containing reports upon the products of Algeria and the colonies, with a special report upon the objects exhibited at Vienna by the Commission of Historic Monuments in France.

ROTTMANN's celebrated fresco paintings of Italian scenery under the arcades of the Hofgarten at Munich have hitherto only been known to visitors to that town; but the well-known firm of Bruckmann, of Munich, have recently rendered them accessible to all by publishing a reproduction of them in chromo-lithography, a process admirably adapted for the rendering of such works. These frescoes some years ago were falling into decay, but we understand that King Ludwig of Bavaria has had them carefully restored, and that an iron grating has been erected to let down before the arcades at night, so as to protect them from the wanton injury from which they formerly suffered.

THE popular German master Joseph von Führich celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday last February. Many honours were paid him on the occasion. The Pope sent him blessing, his fellow-artists a congratulatory address, and the town of Vienna its honorary citizenship; but, more than all, a Führich exhibition was inaugurated, consisting of 181 of his works, many of which had never before been exhibited. Fourteen of these are the cartoons for the frescoes in the Altlerchenfelder Church, in Vienna, twenty-nine are oil-paintings, and the remainder consist of drawings, sketches, and watercolours belonging to the artist himself. The exhibition is held in the Künstlerhaus at Vienna.

THE *Zeitschrift für Bildende Kunst* opens this month with a critical notice of the eighteenth century Spanish artist, Francisco Goya. The writer, Hermann Lücke, states that "Goya is an artist who is very little known in Germany." Nor are we better acquainted with him in England. In France, however, he is greatly appreciated. Several critiques upon him and a *catalogue raisonné* of his etchings had appeared even before M. Charles Yriarte wrote an exhaustive history of his life, published as a handsome quarto volume in 1867, and so brought him before the notice of all lovers of art. It is somewhat difficult to define Goya's exact place as an artist; coming immediately after the great masters of Spain, he yet cannot be called their successor, for his style is totally different. He has more affinity, perhaps, with Hogarth than any other master. His satire is coarse, though not so bitter as that of our great English moralist, but it is unrelieved by any gleams of humour. As contributions to the history of culture his etchings are certainly almost as valuable as Hogarth's works, and it is strange that while the one artist is so popular the other should remain comparatively unknown. Goya died in France in 1828, at the age of eighty-two. A portrait and a bold etching by Unger, from one of his paintings, illustrate the critique. The other articles of the number are: a continuation of Robert Vischer's "Studies in Siena;" Iwan Lermolieff's "Galleries of Rome," translated from the Russian; "Activity in Building" in Berlin, by Adolf Rosenberg; and the conclusion of Rudolf Rettenbacher's articles on the "Architectural Drawings in the Uffizi."

THE greatest landscape painter that Denmark has produced, Peter Christian Skovgaard, died on April 13. He was born near Ringsted, in Zealand, on April 4, 1817; brought up among the most beautiful scenery of Denmark, with Ezerom Lake and the splendid beech-woods on one side, and the

Cattagat on the other, he very early began to copy what he saw in nature. His mother, herself not unskilled in art, encouraged him to the full, and when he was fourteen he was sent up to Copenhagen to be a student at the Academy. He became intimate with Lundbye, and was to some extent under the patronage of Eckersberg; his talent was slow in development, and he was not precocious in discovering the true bent of his genius. Unlike most Scandinavian artists, he served no apprenticeship in Italy, and did not see Florence and Rome till 1854. In 1864 he was elected member of the Academy of Arts, at the same time as Vermehren and Exner. It was the tardy acknowledgment of the new school by the old fogies. His style is intensely realistic, somewhat cold, somewhat hard, but full of breadth, harmony, and truth of detail.

THE German papers announce that in consequence of the special application made by Professor Curtius to the Imperial German Government for the appointment of suitable persons to conduct a scientific Survey of the plain of Athens, leave of absence has been granted by Count Moltke to Herr Kaupert, Inspector of the Imperial Staff of Surveyors at Berlin, and that this officer is at present engaged in the work. After the completion of the triangulation of the plain, Herr Kaupert and his staff will proceed to make an exact survey of the city of Athens, which may serve as the basis of future topographical measurements. The explorations of the German Association are being energetically proceeded with; and recently the workmen have laid bare the foundations of ten houses in the district near the Eleusinian gate, which continues to yield the most successful results.

THE STAGE.

MR. GILBERT'S NEW PIECE.

Tom Cobb, at the St. James's, is in three acts, and has nothing serious in it; that is its only claim to be considered a comedy. It is humorous, but so are a few farces; it is funny, but so are the *Bab Ballads*. As a whole, its first act is its best, though there are bright bits in its second and third; but you feel in the second and third what you hardly have a chance of feeling in the first—at all events, not until the curtain falls upon what is certainly not a dramatic situation—that the thing is too long drawn out; the bit of good metal beaten very thin; the motive exhausted long before the end. The story will with difficulty run through three acts, and coming away at the close of them all, there is not much to remember, except that a good deal of point has been given to the farcical side of the business by Mr. Clifford Cooper, Mr. E. W. Royce, Mr. Bruce, Miss Challis, Mr. De Vere, Mrs. Chippendale, Miss Litton, and Mr. W. J. Hill.

There is a love-sick young surgeon, who gives his name to the piece. His first love is one Matilda O'Fipp, daughter of Colonel O'Fipp. The O'Fippes are of a race with which the stage and fiction have long been familiar. The Colonel is of the twenty-seventh Regiment, but objects to add in what service. He has the make-belief social position of many gallant impecunious heroes in Dickens and Thackeray and smaller writers to boot. His daughter fondly believes in his prestige, though practically accustomed to promise herself in marriage to any one who will take her father's bills. *Tom Cobb* has taken her father's bills, and so when the curtain rises she is engaged to be married to him. But *Tom Cobb*, like Hazlitt, would appear to be physically incapable of constancy, and later on we find his affections transferred to another young woman. The discovery, it is true, does not greatly wound us, for we could never take any particular interest in his earlier loves. Besides, the second young woman and her family are more amusing than the first, and newer. While Mr. Gilbert's colonel and Matilda O'Fipp were the result of

a wholesome belief in the reality of other people's creations, the Effingham family—father, mother, son and daughter—are the product of personal observation. They are an extravagant, but at the same time a recognisable caricature of people one has actually met: people of means, very likely, but who have become convinced that in our day it is the fashion to affect to care for ideas, thoughts, romance, culture—possessions not tangible and material, in fine—and so adopt the affectation of their neighbours, adding to it a little of their own. Had Mr. Gilbert concentrated himself upon a satire on people who think intelligence “the thing,” he would have had a fine field, and would probably have been successful. But he has gone on to lay particular stress not on the fact of fashionable affectation in his Effingham family, but on the union with that of very keen regard for all material interests, so that his innocent heroine, who talks bad blank verse, and dresses in dainty grey-green gowns and hats, after Sir Joshua, is yet capable of carrying her romantic sorrows into a court of law, having been duly advised as to an award of substantial damages.

But we will not grumble with Mr. Gilbert for having brought his favourite stage “property” of cynicism, with which many a piece has made us perfectly familiar, into use in his new piece at the Saint James's. People familiar with Mr. Gilbert's comedies know that it is not in human nature to do anything with a good motive—even the admirable heroine of *Charity* is benevolent by way of an atonement, and the Broad Church clergyman who becomes a colonial bishop has probably had a past not wholly creditable, could we but know it. The moral of the last piece—*Tom Cobb* at the Saint James's—is that self-interest is at the bottom of romance; and the moral of the last piece but one—*The Trial by Jury*—appears to be that nobody is proof against the influence of a pretty young woman. We may take the moral or not, as we are minded, but we will be grateful for the fun, and will laugh when the sham worshippers of a poet who is himself not very genuine cluster round him with books ready to catch the fragments of his mind, and when his hostess asks him to give her “a great thought” much as she might ask a lady to give her a song. The humours of these people entertain one a good deal, but Mr. Gilbert has not used his material lavishly. It is not the kind of work which you would go willingly a long way to see. No piece played outside the Palais Royal or the Variétés has ever had so little substance in the long space of three acts. Mr. Gilbert is probably a man who cares something for his reputation, and proposes to maintain it. But if that be so, he must next time give us “more matter with less art.”

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

THE theatrical week has not been really a brilliant one, though four new performances have been presented to the public since we last wrote. These have been Mr. Gilbert's *Tom Cobb*, the Opéra Comique's representation of *La Comtesse de Sommerive*, the Gaiety's revival of *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Mr. Horace Wigan's revival of the *Hidden Hand*.

La Comtesse de Sommerive, at the Opéra Comique, has been disappointing, and the applause with which it was received the night that we were there is difficult to account for. Théodore Barrière, who had a principal part in the authorship, has done good work, in his time, and even in the *Comtesse de Sommerive* he has no doubt shown his usual aptitude in the management and sequence of scenes. But he has dealt with an unpleasant story, and has not concealed or modified its unpleasantness. We shall not tell it in any detail, for notwithstanding the applause with which it was received, it is not likely to be repeated very often in London. The acting was not of a kind to bring its merits

into strong relief. Mdlle. Baittig has not, we think, been seen to less advantage than as the guilty mother. She was better, though not charming, as the injured but much-enduring wife in M. Denayrouse's attempt at philosophical comedy. And as Alix—a character intended to have much of pathos in it—Mdlle. Laurence Gérard, who came to us a star, failed, we think, to display any qualifications for that position. The performance of these ladies appeared to us to be wanting in passion and tenderness. Neither has great command of facial play: neither has a voice that is specially sympathetic. There was nothing in this whole performance approaching in delicacy and justice of expression the acting of Mdlle. Andrée Kelly, in *Mademoiselle Duparc*, of which we spoke, very briefly, a week or two ago. The men were not very ably represented. M. Monti is better suited to the eccentric comedy of *Les Trente Millions de Gladiator* than to the representation of pathos. Nor did the others notably distinguish themselves. It might be wise on the part of the management of the Opéra Comique to secure without further delay the services of the distinguished comedians whose advent has been spoken of. The *Athenaeum* has hinted at the possibility of the whole Gymnase Company coming over for a while. That company is not as good as it used to be, but it contains many trained actors, and a few gifted ones. The head of these—Mdlle. Blanche Pierson—has been mentioned as likely to appear in London, whether or not her comrades do. Her appearance will give the public and the profession an opportunity they have not enjoyed since the appearance here of Desclée; for Mdlle. Pierson's acting is of the kind appealing alone to somewhat sensitive observers: not at all to the many who mistake an obvious artifice for a sufficient art, and a sensation-death for an effort of genius.

Few Shaksperian parts are better suited to the talent of Miss Cavendish than that of Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*—the play presented at the Gaiety on Monday last. It is in the earlier scenes that Miss Cavendish is most competent, though she nowhere notably fails. Tenderness—the absence of which tells badly on her performance of characters that require it—has little place here. Brilliancy first, and then earnestness and vigour, are the main requisites for the stage presentation of Beatrice; and these Miss Cavendish possesses in full measure, and displays with an art that is the fruit of experience and individual thought. The general cast, which is a good one for a performance which previous arrangements will prevent from being long protracted, includes Miss Furtado, Mr. Hermann Vezin, Mr. Ryder—all seen to advantage here—and Messrs. Markby, Walsham, Boyne, J. G. Taylor and Righton. We saw a few months ago at a morning performance at the Haymarket, how good was the Verges of Mr. Righton. The Shaksperian comedy is followed by *A Nice Girl*, in which Mr. Soutar, Mr. Taylor, and Mrs. Leigh appear, but which finds its chief attraction for Gaiety audiences in the fact that it affords an opportunity for the exhibition of the brisk and sprightly talent of Miss Farren.

IN a few humorous observations made on Saturday night at the re-opening of the Holborn Theatre under its new name of the Mirror, Mr. Horace Wigan protested his ignorance of the past fortunes of that playhouse. The Holborn Theatre was successful once; commercially at all events with *Flying Scud*, but since then its prosperous days have been few, and a visit to it was like a premature entombment. All this Mr. Horace Wigan will no doubt essay to change. He begins his career with one of Mr. Tom Taylor's most successful adaptations, *The Hidden Hand*, in which ten years ago Miss Kate Terry played Lady Penarvon. Miss Rose Leclercq has succeeded to the part, and has studied it carefully, and represents it not without force and picturesqueness. Miss Louisa Moore is one of the younger ladies of the drama, and as graceful a one as need be. Miss

Ellen Douglas is a forcible Enid. Mrs. Fairfax is the murderous old lady. Mr. Howard takes Mr. Henry Neville's old part of Lord Penarvon. Mr. Dewar is Sir Caradoc. The piece is, as all the world knows, a very strong one of its kind; absolutely requiring good acting, yet not dependent by any means on the acting of any one performer. It is mounted at the Mirror in substantial fashion, and will probably for many weeks—perhaps months—continue to be played. Mr. C. L. Kenney has furnished Mr. Wigan with a *lever de rideau*—*Maids of Honour*—and Mr. Maltby with an afterpiece, *Make Yourself at Home*. Mr. David Fisher makes his reappearance in this last, and is sufficiently funny.

MISS HELEN FAUCIT gave her aid to the performance at Drury Lane on Friday week, in aid of the fund whose first object is to build at Stratford-upon-Avon a theatre for the acting of Shakspeare. She played with the wonted art of her later years, Rosalind in *As You Like It*. She was fairly supported. Miss Faucit has before now given her services to causes of more practical usefulness. It is excellent that any town should have a theatre devoted to the acting of Shakspeare; but that the country town where Shakspeare was born and died should have it before the capital where he worked is not perhaps an entirely reasonable arrangement. How many nights in the year is the theatre intended to be open?

Paul Pry has been played during the week at the Strand Theatre, Mr. Byron's *Old Sailors* having been withdrawn.

MR. J. S. CLARKE, the American humorous actor, has appeared, as announced, at the Charing Cross Theatre.

THE *Hunchback* is to be played at the Gaiety Theatre this (Saturday) morning.

WE forgot to call attention in our last issue to an anniversary of some interest—the fifth annual return of the first opening day of the Vaudeville Theatre, where, under the management of Messrs. James and Thorne, most of us have spent many merry evenings and very few dull ones.

WE have already called the attention of our readers to Mr. John Hollingshead's vigorous letters on the subject of the anomalies existing in the different arrangements in use for the supervision of the drama in London and the country. They appeared first in the *Daily Telegraph*, and are now re-published, and issued in pamphlet form by Chatto and Windus. To the letters to the *Telegraph* Mr. Hollingshead has added the lively letter he addressed to the *Times* on the subject of the compulsory closing of the London theatres on Ash Wednesday; and the whole forms a forcible contribution to the discussion of a subject which will never be settled to everybody's liking. The pamphlet is one of the most readable, and withal good-natured, attacks on existing institutions which we can call to mind. Some day it may be of practical effect.

THE Châtelet, as those know who know Paris well, is an immense theatre for spectacle and *drame*, and is situated where the revolutionary element may meet the bourgeoisie. The Latin quarter has got the Odéon and the Cluny all to itself, and Belleville has its own places of amusement unknown to most of the world; but the Châtelet is in central Paris, and is within easy reach of Communist workman, Republican student, and Orleanist shopkeeper. The meeting of these, only the other night, for the first representation of *Cromwell*, bade fair to be dangerous. There was a riot caused by words spoken in the piece. *Cromwell* is a posthumous work of poor Victor Séjour. He left it not quite finished, but some one had finally arranged it, and its production was looked forward to with interest, and on the given night the leading critics went down to the theatre. Taillade had the imprudence to speak some words which had previously been forbidden by the censor, and this was the cause of a tumult which renders it

useless to enter into detailed discussion of the piece, since the result of the tumult has been a prompt order for *Cromwell's* withdrawal from the stage. M. Vitu doubts if in any case "we French, whether sceptics or Catholics, could have been interested in that sombre puritanical figure, dont les défauts, comme les qualités, blessent sur tous les points notre idéal et nos croyances." Besides M. Taillade, who became the evil genius of the piece, Messrs. Laurent and Abel, Mdma. Jane Essler, and others, took part in the performance.

It is five years since Emile Augier's *Gabrielle* has been played at the Comédie Française. This week it was to be reproduced, with new performers: Mdlle. Madeleine Brohan, Mdlle. Sarah Bernhardt, M. Coquelin, and M. Thiron. Mdlle. Madeleine Brohan's appearances on the stage have of late become very rare.

Fanny Lear, a comedy in five acts, by Meilhac and Halévy, was revived, two or three days since, at the Paris Vaudeville, for the representations of Mdma. Pasca, who is released, for a while, from her engagement at St. Petersburg.

Un Drame sous Philippe II. is already pronounced to be a commercial success at the Odéon, where elaborate stage trappings secure for a piece a triumph sometimes denied elsewhere to plays depending chiefly on literary merit for their attractiveness.

L'Affaire Coverley is the Tichborne story brought out on the Paris stage at the Ambigu Comique. M. Charles Bigot reports to us its success. It appears to contain at least two scenes which show much aptitude for dramatic work on the part of its author, M. Barbusse, a contributor to the *Siècle*.

MUSIC.

RECENT CONCERTS.

It is gratifying to be able to say that the fourth concert of the British Orchestral Society, which took place on Wednesday week, showed on the whole a decided improvement in point of execution on most of those which have been previously given. This was observable, perhaps, to the greatest extent in the opening number of the programme—Mendelssohn's overture to *Melusina*. There is hardly one of the composer's orchestral works which tests so severely the mettle of both band and conductor as this charming and imaginative piece; and its performance on this occasion was marked by a refinement and finish which the previous concerts of the society had certainly not led us to expect. Of the other chief orchestral work of the evening, Beethoven's symphony in C minor, nearly, but not quite, as good an account can be given. It would be unjust to say that it was badly played, but it was here and there a little coarse, and there was a slight tendency to drag the time in the slow movement. It was very satisfactory to find two large works by English composers in the programme. The society is doing good service by affording that opportunity to native talent which is so often sought in vain. The two pieces referred to were an Intermezzo and Scherzo by Mr. Henry Gadsby, composed expressly for the society, and a "Concertino di Bravura" for the violin by Mr. Henry Holmes. Mr. Gadsby is no stranger at these concerts, having written an overture for them last year, which, as well as other of his works, has also obtained a hearing at the Crystal Palace. The Intermezzo and Scherzo are well worthy of him and deserve to be heard again. Of the two the former impressed us the more at a first hearing; its themes are very graceful, and the instrumentation is really charming. Of the Scherzo it is more difficult to speak decidedly, because the performance was in parts wanting in distinctness. Whether the fault lay with the orchestra or with the orchestration it is impossible to say without examining the score. That it

contains interesting points and clever treatment was evident; more than this cannot be said without a second hearing. Mr. Holmes's Concertino, in which the composer played the solo part, is simply a show-piece well written for the violin, but of little musical value. Of its two movements the first produces the impression of dullness, and the second of triviality. Mr. Holmes is so well known as one of our most finished violinists, that it is needless to add that he performed the work to perfection. The vocalists on this evening were Miss Julia Elton and Mr. Edward Lloyd, and the concert concluded with the overture to *Les Deux Journées*.

At Mr. Manns's benefit concert at the Crystal Palace last Saturday, that gentleman on taking his place at the conductor's desk was received with a warmth that must have shown him unmistakably how thoroughly his efforts in the cause of music were appreciated by his audience. As usual on these occasions a programme of even more than average interest was provided. The concert commenced with the overture to *Fidelio*, played to perfection by the band; after which Mdma. Blanche Cole and Messrs. E. Lloyd and Santley sang the delightful trio, "In better worlds," from the same opera. Though this charming piece is but seldom heard apart from the stage, it certainly loses less than many operatic excerpts by its transplantation to the concert-room. The third item in the programme was Raff's masterly Concerto for the piano in C minor. This fine work has already been reviewed in these columns (*ACADEMY*, January 17, 1874), and it is therefore needless to say much about it here. A second hearing strengthens the favourable impression previously formed of it. The first movement is, from a technical point of view, its cleverest portion; but the second and third possess more charm. As on the occasion of its only previous performance in London, the solo part was in the hands of Dr. Bülow, who was in his finest play, and who contributed not a little to the success of the work. The orchestral accompaniments were rendered with that finish which is to be heard nowhere but at the Crystal Palace, and the reception of the concerto was extremely hearty. The remaining instrumental features of the concert were the well-known "Scotch" symphony and a selection from *Lohengrin*. As the entire opera is so shortly promised at Covent Garden, this selection was especially suitable as a foretaste. It comprised three numbers—the Prelude, the Bridal Procession music from the second act, and the Introduction to the third act—all familiar to those who attended the concerts of the Wagner Society, but of which only the first had been previously heard at Sydenham. Though, like all Wagner's music, losing much from the want of stage accessories, and from separation from their context, these three pieces are of sufficient independent musical interest to be welcome at a miscellaneous concert. No finer performance could be wished than that under Mr. Manns's direction; and the brilliant introduction to the third act pleased so much as to obtain an encore. In addition to three songs by the vocalists named above, which call for no special remark, the programme also included, besides the pieces already mentioned, a "Concert-piece" for violoncello and orchestra, which served to introduce for the first time to an English audience an artist who enjoys a great reputation on the Continent. This was Herr Jules de Swert, solo violoncellist to the Emperor of Germany. The "Concert-piece," which was the composition of the performer, was hardly a happy choice, being to the last degree lugubrious and dull; we, therefore, prefer to defer a final opinion on Herr de Swert till we hear him in more interesting music, merely saying for the present that he has a very rich and pure tone, excellent intonation, and apparently unlimited execution—in a word, that he is evidently a master of his instrument. He is not, however, free from the failing common to many

vocalists, though less frequent with instrumental performers, of an excessive use of the *vibrato*.

As was observable last year, the band of the Philharmonic Society improves as the season advances—doubtless from playing more often together. The third concert, given at St. James's Hall last Monday evening, was decidedly superior to the preceding one in finish of performance. The first piece in the programme—the overture to *Melusina*—was more than creditably played, and the same may be said of other numbers which followed. The special novelty of the evening was Anton Rubinstein's violin concerto, played by Herr Wilhelmj. The whole work was originally announced; but only two movements—the first and second—were given, and the order of these was reversed. This was not only an inartistic procedure on the part of the performer, but an injustice to the composer, against which a strong protest must be entered. If Herr Rubinstein has conceived his work as a whole (and there is no reason to suppose otherwise), the logical sequence of ideas is destroyed by such a process. What would be thought of a reading of *Macbeth* in which the first act was preceded by the second? The thing is absurd on the face of it; and in the case of a musical work it is hardly less so. So far as can be judged from so distorted a rendering, the concerto is a very clever rather than a very great work. The *andante* is charming, but the *allegro* is as a whole less interesting. The solo part is enormously difficult, and not always effective. Rubinstein, himself one of the greatest living pianists, has too often forgotten that the genius of the violin and that of the piano are essentially different, and many of the show-passages for the soloist are in reality admirably adapted to the piano, but very ill suited to the violin. Herr Wilhelmj's performance was characterised by all that marvellous richness and beauty of tone, and by that unflinching certainty and purity of intonation even in passages of the utmost difficulty, which have been before mentioned as specialities of his playing. In the second part of the concert he also gave two short solos with great effect. The remaining instrumental pieces of the evening were the great *Leonora* overture, Schumann's symphony in B flat, and the march from *Athalie*, all of which are too well known to need remark. The vocalist was Mdlle. Elena Corani, who was heard to great advantage in Mozart's charming song "Come scoglio" from *Così fan tutte*; but was less happy in her choice for a second piece of Elizabeth's prayer from the third act of *Tannhäuser*. Admirable as is this piece from the truthfulness of its expression, and effective as it must doubtless be on the stage, its sombre character, and the monotonous colour of the instrumentation, which is entirely for wind instruments, render it hardly adapted for the concert-room. For the fourth concert, on the 10th inst., Beethoven's Choral Symphony is announced, and a pianist new to this country, Signor Ludovico Breitner, will make his first appearance in Liszt's concerto in E flat.

The annual concert of that excellent pianist, Miss Agnes Zimmermann, took place on Thursday evening. The programme included Beethoven's sonata in A, Op. 69, for piano and violoncello, Schumann's "Etudes Symphoniques," Miss Zimmermann's sonata (No. 2, in A minor) for piano and violin, and Schubert's trio in B flat, the concert giver being assisted by Messrs. Straus and Daubert, and Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington. As the concert took place after our going to press, we are unable to report upon it; but Miss Zimmermann is such an accomplished and thoroughly sterling artist that we risk nothing in predicting a complete success. Of her own sonata we hope to have another opportunity of speaking.

EBENEZER PROUT.

THE musical and miscellaneous library of the late Sir Sterndale Bennett was sold by auction on Monday last by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson.

The collection was a tolerably extensive one, comprising 155 lots of books and 320 of music. While very rich in some departments, it was singularly incomplete in others. The composers best represented were Bach, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn, nearly the whole of the published works of all three being found in the library. On the other hand, the collection contained comparatively few of Handel's or Haydn's works, still less (only four or five lots each) of Weber and Schumann, only one work by Schubert, and absolutely no specimens of the more modern composers, Brahms, Raff, Wagner, &c. The Mendelssohn collection, as might be expected, was peculiarly rich, and included the autograph scores of the *Hebrides* overture and the quartet in D, which realised 52l. and 36l. respectively. A set of thirteen autograph letters from Mendelssohn to Mr. C. Coventry sold for 63l., and an album containing a probably unique collection of autographs and drawings, and including specimens of the writing of Beethoven, Cramer, Ferdinand David, Goethe, Sir John Herschel, Hummel, Martin Luther, Mendelssohn, Moscheles, Mozart, Sir Walter Scott, Spohr, and Weber, and drawings by the Calcotts, the Landseers, Sir John Philip, W. Mulready, Mendelssohn, and others, was knocked down, after a brisk competition, at 73l.

M. AND MME. ALFRED JAELL are at present in Paris, where they have been playing with great success.

VERDI's "Requiem" was given three times last week in Paris at the Opéra Comique. The performances at the Albert Hall, announced recently in these columns, are fixed for Saturday afternoon the 15th, and Wednesday evening the 19th inst. For the sake of those who may desire to make the previous acquaintance of the work, it may be well to mention that the vocal score in a very elegant large octavo edition is published by the firm of Ricordi at Milan, and can be obtained at their branch establishment in London, at Charles Street, Middlesex Hospital.

Two new histories of the Opera have just been published at Paris. The one is entitled *Les Treize Salles de l'Opéra*, and is by M. Albert de Lasalle. The other, simply bearing the name *L'Opéra*, is by M. Georges d'Heylli.

RUBINSTEIN's new opera, *Die Maccabäer*, was produced on the 17th ult. with great success at the Royal Opera House, Berlin. The composer left for Paris two days later to direct there the first performance of his sacred opera *Der Thurm zu Babel*.

CONCERTMEISTER HUBERT RIES, a younger brother of Beethoven's favourite pupil, Ferdinand Ries, has lately celebrated the completion of fifty years of service at the Royal Opera at Berlin. Herr Ries was a pupil of Spohr and Moritz Hauptmann. On the occasion of his jubilee he received from the Emperor of Germany the Order of the Crown of the fourth class.

HANDEL's *Joshua* has lately been performed in St. Petersburg. It is but seldom that any of this composer's works are to be heard in Russia.

THE deaths of two distinguished operatic artists are announced from Paris—Mdlle. Caroline Vandenhuevel (*née* Duprez, the daughter of the renowned tenor singer), and M. Coudere, until recently one of the chief favourites at the Opéra Comique.

HERR RUBINSTEIN has been elected corresponding member of the Académie des Beaux Arts, in place of M. Daubigny-Méhuil, deceased.

MR. DANKREUTHER, last Friday, at his residence, 12, Orme Square, concluded a course of lectures on Beethoven, the object of which was to describe, in a manner intelligible to persons not specially learned in music, the character of the numerous technical innovations to be found in Beethoven's works, and to account for these innovations as the necessary outcome of the master's ethical and poetical nature.

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